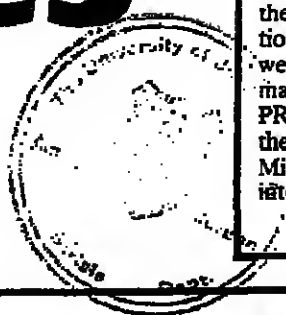


# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
 جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية اردنية والراي



**Fahd opens large military city**  
 RYADH (AP) — King Fahd on Saturday inaugurated Saudi Arabia's largest military city, a vast base that Arab diplomats described as one of the world's biggest. Officials said the 18-million-Riyal (\$5-billion) city named after the late King Khaled, was designed to accommodate 70,000 persons — officers and men of the Saudi armed forces along with their families. Three Brigades — two infantry and one panzer — would be stationed in the city, they said. In an inaugural speech, King Fahd said the Kingdom was building its military might "so that we can defend our Islamic identity, above everything else, and every inch of the country." A chain of similar military cities is abuilding in different regions along the kingdom. King Khaled's was the third city to be completed in a decade. It overlooks the Gulf's northern sector at Hafir Al Baten, not far from the Iran-Iraq war zone.

**PRCS appeals for aid to refugees**  
 NICOSIA (Petra) — The Palestinian Red Crescent Society (PRCS) has appealed to all international organisations and the Red Cross and Red Crescent societies to supply it with doctors, nurses and medicines to enable it to perform its humanitarian task to Palestine refugees living in Lebanon. A spokesman for the PRCS said the Palestinians "are facing a war of extermination waged by the Israeli occupation forces, which have used all weapons of destruction against them and is executing daily massacres in their camps." The spokesman also stressed that the PRCS is using all available resources to alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinians, particularly in the 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mich Mieh camps. South Lebanon which have been subjected to intermittent shelling and attacks since the last 10 days.

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**Omani leader to visit Jordan**

AMMAN (J.T.) — Sultan Jabooos Ibn Sa'id of Oman will make an official visit to Jordan at the end of this month for talks with His Majesty King Hussein. Omani officials told Reuters Saturday. They gave no date.

**Urquhart, Shara'a hold talks**

DAMASCUS (R) — Deputy U.N. Secretary-General Brian Urquhart Saturday conferred with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a over the future of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), the official Syrian News Agency (SANA) reported. It said the talks focussed on renewal of UNIFIL's mandate in South Lebanon and on Israel's "brutal practices against civilians, which contradict with international law and U.N. resolutions." Mr. Urquhart, who arrived here Saturday, is on a Middle East tour which has also taken him to Jordan, Lebanon and Israel.

**Reagan names new envoy to Israel**

SANTA BARBARA, California (AP) — Thomas R. Pickering, the U.S. ambassador to El Salvador and once a reported target for assassination by right-wing extremists, will become American ambassador to Israel, it was announced Friday. There was no announcement of his successor by the White House press office, set up here during Mr. Reagan's 10-day vacation. If confirmed by the Senate, Mr. Pickering will succeed Samuel Lewis. Mr. Pickering, 54, was ambassador to Nigeria and from 1974 to 1978 he was U.S. envoy to Jordan.

**Reagan sends message to Pope**

SANTA BARBARA, California (AP) — President Ronald Reagan has sent a letter to Pope John Paul II describing his Nicaraguan initiative and discussing arms control matters. White House Deputy Press Secretary Larry Speakes said Friday. The letter will be delivered by Senate majority leader Robert Dole, who is travelling to Europe, to tour a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation facility before meeting with the Pope. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane said the letter was intended to inform the Pope and to ask his advice.

**Unknown group claims Nicosia killing**

BEIRUT (R) — A unknown group, "the Arab Unionist Nationalist Organisation," has claimed responsibility for killing a Libyan businessman in Cyprus last Tuesday, a Beirut newspaper reported Saturday. A statement carried in the daily An Nahar described Libyan Ahmad Barani as an "agent... involved in watching the activities of Arab struggles and submitting information about them to hostile services, thus causing serious harm to Arab national revolutionary movements." Mr. Barani was shot in the face in his Nicosia office by an unknown Arab and died later from his wound.

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## Army chief topples Numeiri after coup

*Swareddahab sacks government, declares emergency; deposed president remains in Cairo*

**CAIRO (Agencies) — Sudan's army chief seized control of the country Saturday and sacked President Jaafar Numeiri and all his aides and ministers from their posts, Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported from Khartoum.**

Quoting the official Sudanese News Agency SUNA, it said army Commander-in-Chief Abdul Rahman Swareddahab had also declared a state of emergency, closed the country's borders and would keep the airports shut.

Acting after several days of anti-government demonstrations and a nationwide strike, he suspended the constitution, dissolved the Sudanese Socialist Union, the country's only political party, and the People's Assembly (parliament), MENA said.

The announcement came shortly after Mr. Numeiri arrived here from Washington for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, his partner in a joint defence pact and an integration agreement.

As Mr. Numeiri walked out to his plane to continue his journey, his pilot told him he could not take off for the Sudanese capital because of "security reasons," Egyptian officials told reporters.

Mr. Numeiri, grim-faced, nodded with his face down and walked back to the airport terminal with Mr. Mubarak at his side.

Mr. Numeiri and Mr. Mubarak later left the airport for Tabara Palace, a presidential guest house where Mr. Numeiri is expected to stay for the time being.

Two days ago, in an interview with the Kuwaiti daily Al Siyassa, Mr. Mubarak described the events in Khartoum as an internal matter and said Egypt would intervene only if Sudan were faced with outside aggression.

SUNA, quoted by MENA, said army commanders will assume the responsibilities of governors throughout Sudan, Africa's largest country.

The report quoted Mr. Swareddahab as saying the takeover was for an interim period and appealed to the people "to be alert and vigilant to foil attempts to exploit the situation."

The Sudanese embassy in Nairobi quoted him as saying that "after the deteriorating political situation, the army has decided to take the side of the people for an interim period."

Thousands of Sudanese took to the streets to support of the army takeover, MENA said. Army units occupied the Omdurman Broadcasting Station, near Khartoum, and refused to move until the takeover was announced, it added.

Mr. Swareddahab, a stocky, grey-haired, mustachioed man in his late fifties, was Mr. Numeiri's most trusted assistant in the army, Egyptian sources told Reuters.

He is the only soldier Mr. Numeiri entrusted with command of the army, a post which Mr. Numeiri had held since he came to power in 1969.

He appointed him commander-in-chief during a cabinet reshuffle last month, after a purge of the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood organisation which Mr. Numeiri has blamed for much of Sudan's problems.

Sudan's current unrest broke out shortly after Mr. Numeiri, who survived several attempts to topple him during his 16 years in power, left for Washington on March 27. He went there for a medical checkup and to seek aid from the United States.

Riots broke out in Khartoum on the day he left in response to the lifting of government subsidies on bread and other essentials.

Fresh demonstrations broke out a few days later, with crowds demanding the downfall of Mr. Numeiri, and a communications blackout. A nationwide strike by doctors, lawyers, government employees and other groups paralysed the country.

Mr. Swareddahab, in a statement reported by MENA from Khartoum, said: "The people's armed forces have taken over power to end bloodshed and safeguard the homeland's independence and territorial integrity... the general command appeals to all honest citizens to arm themselves with alertness and vigilance to thwart any attempt to play about with the country's unity and security." Col. Swareddahab said.

Libya's foreign liaison bureau, or the foreign ministry, announced that Tripoli "recognises the new regime and salutes the heroic Sudanese people and their brave army," the dispatch said.

At the same time, it warned against any attempt by outside powers to interfere in Sudan's internal affairs, JANA said.

Syria also welcomed the army takeover from Mr. Numeiri.

"The overthrow of Numeiri has crowned the long struggle of the Sudanese people after his regime had failed to undermine their revolt," state-run Damascus Radio said.

Arab news agencies monitoring SUNA said the official Sudanese agency reported a seven-point programme being put in effect by the country's new rulers.

They were: — Suspension of the constitution, declaration of a state of emergency and martial law and sealing of Sudan's borders and air space, beginning Saturday.

— Dismissal of Mr. Numeiri, his deputies, assistants and ministers.

— Dissolution of the Sudanese Socialist Union, which Mr. Numeiri created and proclaimed the country's only legal political party.

— Dissolution of the central and regional parliaments.

— Dismissal of regional governors and their ministers.

— Assignment of regional military commanders to replace the governors.

— Appointment of permanent secretaries, who are civil servants, to head the central ministries until further notice.

Sudan — a country with many problems, page 2

Numeiri kept power cultivating army and U.S. support, page 4



His Majesty King Hussein receives Abdul Hadi Boutaleb, a special Moroccan envoy, who delivered a message from King Hassan II (Petra photo)

## King receives message from Moroccan leader

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received a message from King Hassan II of Morocco dealing with the latest developments in the Arab arena and bilateral relations, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The message was delivered by King Hassan's special envoy, Abdul Hadi Boutaleb, who arrived here Friday, at a meeting attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and Moroccan Charge d'Affaires in Amman Mohammad Dilal.

Mr. Boutaleb is one of many special envoys sent by King Hassan to Arab capitals with messages believed to be connected with the Western Sahara question.

Mr. Boutaleb left Amman later Saturday and he was seen off by Royal Court Chief Raja'i Dajani, Chief of Protocol at the Foreign Ministry Akham Qussous and Mr. Dilal and senior officials from the Moroccan embassy.

## Arab delegates to meet in Tunis for urgent talks

TUNIS (Petra) — The Arab League Council will hold an emergency session on Monday at the level of permanent representatives to discuss the situation in South Lebanon and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The meeting is being held in response to a request by the Jordanian Government to discuss the deteriorating situation of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories and Palestinian refugees living in camps in South Lebanon which have been the target of recent attacks by pro-Israeli militias.

Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karame said Lebanon will take part in the meeting to discuss the conditions of the refugee camps in South Lebanon.

Mr. Karame said: "Lebanon is directly concerned with this subject because it tackles a problem which concerns both the Lebanese and the Palestinians."

Mr. Karame, speaking to reporters after a meeting at President Amin Gemayel's palace in Baabda east of Beirut that steps to strengthen the Lebanese army in and around Sidon would be implemented next week.

Also attending the session with the president and prime minister were Defence Minister Adel Ossiran, Army Commander Gen. Michel Aoun, Army Chief-of-Staff Mahmoud Tsi Abu Dargham, and Labour Minister Salim Al Hoss.

Mr. Karame gave no specifics, but the Lebanese army has been reported to be preparing an additional 1,200 troops to augment the 2,300 already on the ground in Sidon. They also have been fitting 30 new armoured personnel carriers with machine guns for the Sidon units.

who has been under pressure from Syria to resolve the split in the Christian community that began March 12 when the mostly Christian Falangist "Lebanese Forces" commander Samir Geagea split with Mr. Gemayel's Falange Party.

Syria has been supporting Mr. Gemayel's drive to reconcile Lebanon's Christians and Muslims and end the country's 10-year civil war. Syrian newspapers have warned that Syria could intervene militarily to crush the rebellion, which the papers have said was backed by Israel.

The Israeli shelling of Jbaar destroyed one house, sources quoted by Reuters said. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

Meanwhile three rocket-propelled grenades exploded over Beirut's mid-city horse race track minutes before the first race on Saturday, causing a panicky stampede among an estimated 4,000 audience, witnesses told the AP.

Jockeys dived from atop their mounts for cover and horses, lined up at the start, bolted neighing towards the stands as the thunderous blasts shook the hippodrome on the "green line".

Despite weakness Lebanese army fights on many fronts, page 2

## Public optimistic over Rifai cabinet

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The new government of Mr. Zaid Rifai looks set to embark on a political course that will liberalise and strengthen the economy, heal inter-Arab differences and step up diplomatic activity to find a solution to the Palestinian problem, according to a random survey of public opinion conducted over the past two days.

Deputies from the Lower House of Parliament, businessmen and private citizens generally voiced the opinion that Mr. Rifai's government will work to strengthen the economy, through revitalising the initiatives and work of the private sector, and to take positive steps in restoring Arab solidarity, including attempts to improve relations with Syria and other states.

"We expect the new government to give more freedom to the private sector which is the basis for every country's economy," said Fakhri Bilkeisi, general manager of the Bank of Commerce and Credit International.

Mr. Bilkeisi expressed hope that the new government "will take positive steps towards Arab solidarity which is an inevitable necessity in our current situation."

He said he was optimistic that Mr. Rifai will move forward on the local and international scenes to solve the Palestinian problem. However, he said, "the first step should be taken towards the Arabs."

Nayef Kaware, another Jordanian businessman, said "Jordanian businessmen will feel more secure under Mr. Rifai who will encourage free enterprise." He added: "We are at a very sensitive stage which requires a man like Mr. Rifai, a veteran politician and economist capable of handling our problems."

Dr. Salameh Abu Mallal, a general practitioner from Karak, said the Kingdom's policies "will not change... it is a steady policy which does not change with the change of governments."

He said that 16 of the 23-member cabinet are former ministers or politicians and that the change, if any, "would be imposed by the political situation and not the ministers."

"The new government will improve relations with Syria and make things easier vis-a-vis the occupied territories... I am optimistic," Dr. Mallal said.

Lower House of Parliament Deputy Ahmad Kofahi, from Irbid, said there is a "new phenomenon" in the new cabinet. He explained that for the first time, a considerable number of parliamentarians are included in the cabinet. "This is a good sign," Mr. Kofahi said.

He expressed hope that the new government "will fulfil the aspirations of the nation by directing people towards the love of God and the Prophet Mohammad and the struggle against the enemy until victory."

"I would like to tell everybody that God's is the best rule... I call on all to adopt this concept," Mr. Kofahi said.

Deputy Laith Shbeilat of Amman declined to comment on the new government until it announces its programme in parliament and only after he has done a careful study on the programme.

However, Mr. Shbeilat said, "We and the people demand to be better informed about the process of changes in governments rather than being surprised by it."

He said: "It seems that many (of the former) ministers did not (Continued on page 2)

## Israelis arrest 100 after Ansar release

BEIRUT (R) — Israeli forces have seized about 100 people in the Tyre region of South Lebanon since the release of 752 detainees from the Ansar prison camp, security sources in the south said Saturday.

They said a dozen of the newly arrested Lebanese were released Friday afternoon, the others remaining in detention in an Israeli stronghold on the eastern outskirts of Tyre.

The sources said the arrests started the day after Israeli forces emptied the Ansar prison camp on Wednesday, releasing 223 prisoners into Lebanese-controlled areas, 529 into Israeli-controlled areas and deporting more than 1,000 to secret prisons in Israel (Ex-detainees describe Nazi-like torture, page 2).

The sources said resistance men had exploded two roadside bombs beside Israeli convoys north of Tyre and attacked an Israeli stronghold with small arms fire in the last 24 hours.

One Israeli soldier was wounded Saturday, they said.

The sources said Israeli troops in armoured convoys had started protecting themselves from attack in the past few days by forcing Lebanese civilian vehicles to drive alongside them.

They set up a roadblock and take local cars hostage to escort their convoys through sensitive areas," one military source in South Lebanon said.

Israeli forces have also been raiding Lebanese villages and arresting villagers suspected of supporting the resistance movement.

## Iraqis raid Tehran, unleash missiles on 3 Iranian towns

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Iraq's air force raided Tehran and Iraqi missiles struck three Iranian towns Saturday, stepping up the "war of the cities." Iran reported over 120 people killed and injured in attacks over the past 24 hours.

Saturday's raids brought to seven the number of retaliatory strikes — both by missiles and jets — on Iranian cities since an Iranian missile struck Baghdad on Friday.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) claimed at least 40 people had been killed or injured when a missile struck Dezful and another 24 were killed or injured in a missile attack on Ram Hormuz.

IRNA said dozens of homes, shops and cars were destroyed in the two cities.

IRNA said another 10 people had been killed and many wounded when an Iraqi missile blasted the border town of Nahawand.

Iraq's military command confirmed the missile attacks against the three cities as part of Baghdad's campaign to force the Iranians to the conference table.

Hours before unleashing the missiles, the Iraqis announced their jets raided the Iranian capital for the 15th time in 24 days in retaliation for Friday's attack on Baghdad. The Iraqis said one person was killed and four injured in the Tehran raid, which they said was carried out by a single Iraqi jet.

Saturday's raids followed an Iraqi missile attack late Friday against the Iranian city of Bahratan and two smaller towns. On Saturday, IRNA said the casualty toll in Bahratan had risen to 31 dead and 10 injured.

An Iranian statement said Iranian aircraft meanwhile struck at industrial and military installations in the Iraqi city of Ramjiyeh, inflicting heavy damage before returning to base.

## U.N. chief to visit Iran

DOHA (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar will visit Tehran Saturday as part of his efforts to end the Gulf war, a U.N. spokesman said Saturday.

The spokesman said Mr. Perez de Cuellar would later visit Baghdad.

The spokesman issued the statement on behalf of the U.N. chief, who is at present in the Qatari capital on a tour of Gulf countries.

It said: "As a result of the consultations by the secretary-general since March 18, 1985 with the deputy foreign minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Iraq, which have been followed during his present visit to the area, the secretary-general has decided to travel to Tehran and Baghdad."

"He will leave for Tehran today, 7 April 1985."

A bomb exploded in central Tehran, destroying three telephone booths and wounding a man and a woman passing on a motorcycle.

It was the third such attack in less than three weeks and diplomats said they seemed deliberately timed by opposition groups to exploit tension already caused by the air attacks on Tehran.

Residents said hundreds of people leave Tehran every night and sleep in their cars outside town to feel safe from Iraqi raids. The price of rooms to let in nearby villages has rocketed by at least tenfold.

Iraq's arsenal includes Soviet Scud-B, SS-12 and SS-21 missiles, according to military sources. U.N. Secretary-General Javier

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## Despite weakness Lebanese army fights on many fronts

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — The Lebanese Army is deployed on seven fronts — trying to curb Lebanon's factional strife and battle a far superior Israeli force — little more than a year after it fell apart in Lebanon's sectarian struggle.

It is fighting, too, against equipment shortages, lack of discipline, and sometimes contradictory — or impossible — orders that grow from Lebanon's political angle.

A senior Lebanese military source, asked why the army has failed to implement various "security plans" intended to quiet factional battles, came up with this explanation:

"As a general fact in Lebanon, after all that has happened, not all orders are being implemented."

The source, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said the soldiers often are confused about what to do, knowing full well that their orders are often intended more to calm public fear than to be vigorously carried out.

One example of the army's problems came this week with the announcement that the government was sending another 1,200 soldiers to the southern port of Sidon to help quiet fighting by Falangist militiamen against opposition and Palestinian militias.

Thirty brand new armoured personnel carriers, shipped from the United States at the end of a year-long suspension on deliveries of such equipment, rolled south along the coast to cheers and waves from the populace. But they got only as far as Beirut Airport.

There, they were to be fitted out with machine guns. Then, before the APCs could proceed south to Sidon, Lebanese newspapers were reporting that arguments had arisen between various factions as to where the troops would be deployed around Sidon.

The same thing happened when

the army first moved south along Lebanon's coastal road in preparation for taking over Sidon when Israeli troops withdrew on Feb. 16.

Several announced deployments preceded the actual one while factions and the Lebanese government negotiated just how far into whose territory the army would take positions.

A Lebanese army major who took part when the army finally did deploy said during the action, "it is a political agreement that allows us here."

The major — who like most of the soldiers interviewed would speak only on conditions his name not be used — added: "We can't move too quickly. We can't take big steps. We have to move little by little."

The last big step the army took was in February last year when the government of President Amin Gemayel ordered an artillery bombardment of Beirut's southern suburbs to try to put down Shiite Muslim militiamen.

The army split into factions mirroring Lebanon's political tangle of Muslims, Christians and Druze. Troops loyal to Mr. Gemayel fled mostly Muslim west Beirut, and Druze and Shiite militias took over.

An even more drastic split occurred during the 1975-76 civil war when an earlier attempt was made to use the army to settle fights between the same religious factions whose members serve in the force.

The Lebanese army source, asked about the difficulties of using the army in factional str-

uggles, replied: "It is important to us that there won't be an internal front. Every shell hurts you more than the ones it hits."

It was from the 1975-76 debacle that the government was trying to recover — with grand plans to build a force of more than 60,000 men — when the new split occurred last February.

The army's strength is now put at 35,000, with perhaps half that number adequately trained under a U.S.-sponsored programme that was sharply curtailed after the February 1984 battles. Those fights also led to the year-long suspension of delivery of armoured personnel carriers.

The army is now deployed in the following areas:

— The mountain town of Souk Al-Gharb facing Druze militiamen.

— The "Green Line" in central Beirut to separate east and west Beirut militia fighters.

— The northern port of Tripoli to end warfare among rival Muslim factions.

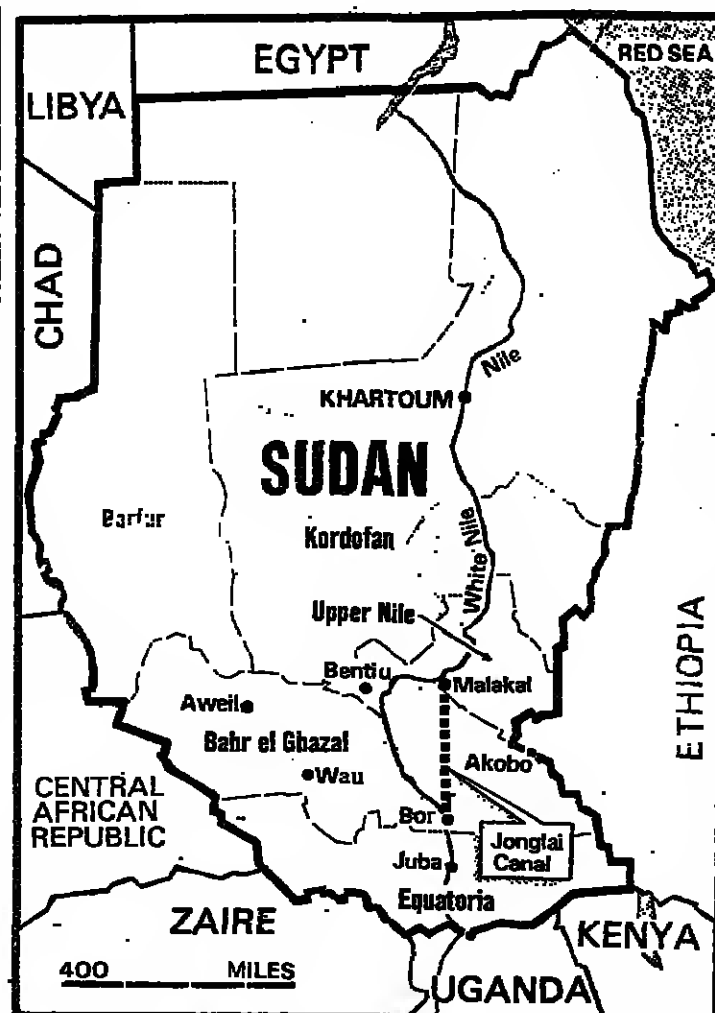
— East Beirut to help settle a revolt by pro-Israeli forces in President Amin Gemayel's Falange Party.

— Sidon for the opposition and Palestinian vs. Falangist battles.

— The Kharroub, region just to the north where opposition and Falangist forces fought for much of last year.

— The frontline with Israel's occupation force, where it has several times wound up in exchanges with the far stronger army. Four Lebanese and one Israeli soldier have been killed in such confrontations.

Not surprisingly, the army has been unable to fully accomplish any of these tasks amid the equipment shortages, orders based on politics, and declining morale.



## Obeid leaves for 2-day visit to Cairo today

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport Farhi Obeid Sunday leaves for Cairo at the head of a Jordanian delegation on a two-day official visit to Egypt, during which he will hold talks with his Egyptian counterpart on the new overland route between Aqaba Port in Jordan and Nuweibi Port in Egypt.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Obeid said he will hold talks with the Egyptian minister of transport and communications and senior Egy-

ptian officials on the preparations for officially opening the overland route between Aqaba and Nuweibi on April 25.

Talks will also touch upon requirements of commissioning this route, including the regular ferries between the two ports, in addition to commissioning the regular tourist line and direct trips between Amman and Cairo.

The Jordanian delegation includes a number of officials from the Ministry of Transport and other ministries and departments.

## Sudan: A country with many problems

KHARTOUM (R) — The key facts about Sudan: Population: 23.25 million (1984 estimate), mainly Arab and Nubian in the north and Nilotic and Negro in the south. About 70 per cent are Muslim. Christians (making up about five per cent) and animists are concentrated in the south.

Area: 2.5 million square kilometres. Sudan is Africa's largest country by area, strategically astride the middle reaches of the Nile, bounded by Egypt to the north, the Red Sea and Ethiopia to the east, Kenya, Uganda and Zaire to the south and Central African Republic, Chad and Libya to the west.

Capital: Khartoum (population 476,000 — 1983 census).

Armed Forces: Army — 53,000 men, including two armoured and seven infantry brigades. Air defence command (3,000 men) equipped with SAM-2 and SAM-7 missiles and anti-aircraft guns. Air force — 3,000 men with 34 combat aircraft. Navy — 2,000 men with about 10 coastal patrol vessels.

Economy: In 1982, per capita gross national product stood at \$440. Sudan, hit by three seasons of drought and an influx of famine refugees from Ethiopia and Chad in 1985, is one of the poorest countries in the world.

It depends on assistance from the United States, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and Saudi Arabia. It received \$148 million from the IMF in 1983 and in December of that year signed a letter of intent for a standby loan, which was later refused. The IMF has pushed for changes in Sudan's economic policies.

Cotton is the main exchange earner but income from it fell to about \$265 million in 1984 from \$300 million in 1983.

The economy has been buffeted by drought since 1982 and last month bankers said the country owed almost \$9 billion, including \$121 million to the IMF.

Sudan has modest oil reserves but rebels have hampered a \$1.4 billion project to build a pipeline to export it through the Red Sea.

Modern history: From 1821,

Sudan was ruled by Egypt and later the Khedive Ismail until the Mahdist Revolution.

An independent Mahdist Islamic state survived from the fall of Khartoum and death of British General Gordon in 1885 until an Anglo-Egyptian condominium was established in 1898, which lasted until independence in 1956.

The military under Ibrahim Abboud overthrew the civilian government two years later. A secessionist bush war waged by an Islamist, Christian and mainly southerners against a mostly Arab, Muslim north claimed a million lives and lasted until a 1972 agreement granted the south autonomy.

Initially a leftist disciple of Egypt's Jamal Abdul Nasser, Mr. Numeiri became a staunch U.S. ally after crushing an attempted pro-Communist coup in 1971.

## Egypt accuses Libya, Iran and Syria of plotting sabotage

CAIRO (AP) — Libya, Iran and Syria are plotting a series of sabotage and assassination attempts in Egypt with the aim of destabilising the country, Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi said in a newspaper interview published Saturday.

"Security authorities have definite and undisputed evidence that Libya, Iran and Syria are coordinating efforts among themselves and with some international terrorist organisations to undertake a series of sabotage and assassination attempts with the aim of making a crack in the

national front and destabilising the country," Mr. Rushdi said.

In this context, Mr. Rushdi specifically mentioned the Japanese Red Army and the West German and Red Brigades organisations. He also referred to unidentified extremist Palestinian organisations hostile to peace moves by Egypt, Jordan and Mr. Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Earlier in the week, Mr. Rushdi said authorities had uncovered a Libyan-backed group dedicated to causing unrest in Egypt and arrested five of its members.

## Public optimistic over Rifai

(Continued from page 1)

know about the change as they were issuing communiques, making inspection visits and carrying out other activities when the decision to change the government was suddenly announced.

Deputy Fawzi Daoud, from Fuhais, expressed his disappointment with the average age of the new cabinet ministers. He said he preferred to see younger ministers appointed as the older generations of officials "cannot cope with the new problems facing the country."

"We were looking for something more contemporary... young blood in the government," Dr. Daoud continued.

On the political level, however, Dr. Daoud said he expected a continuation of the policy of integration with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the move towards a peaceful settlement to the Palestinian problem.

Jordan's policies towards Iraq will remain the same but I expect a thaw in relations with Syria," Dr. Daoud said.

PLO Executive Committee member and representative in Jordan Brig. Abdul Razzak Yahya reacted cautiously when asked to comment on the new government.

"The issue is very sensitive for us and I do not wish to comment on the subject," he said. "Although the new development seems to be promising, I would like to keep my opinion to myself."

PLO Executive Committee member Bishop Elia Khoury also declined to comment but said he was optimistic. When asked why

he felt that way, he said "I am always optimistic."

Mr. Butros Hamarneh, a farmer, said the new government of Mr. Rifai came "in an attempt to develop local thinking and improve relations with Arab countries for mutual interests."

He said "the government should have full control of its destiny" and that "we should not accept a foreign solution to our problems on any economic, political or social level." He did not want to elaborate on his statement.

Ahmad Qattan, a student at the University of Jordan, said the change of government will not result in any major change in policies.

Mr. Qattan, who did not want to say more, said: "My opinion will not change anything; so why are you asking for my impression?"

A shopkeeper who declined to be identified said: "This is the best government we had in the last 10 years... we can now hope for some action in the country."

Muna Murtaqa, an employee in a private company, said Mr. Rifai's political background "indicates he is the best person for the job." She said the new prime minister is "intelligent, very tactful and a tough diplomat who loves his country."

Imad Ma'uf, a civil engineer, said he expected that under the new government "a more liberal economy, a clearer policy and a better communication with the people" will result.

Mr. Ma'uf said Jordan is entering "a new phase that needed new people in the leadership. We hope Mr. Rifai will live up to his reputation."

## Ex-detainees of Ansar describe 'Nazi-like' Israeli torture

BEIRUT (R) — Prisoners released from Israel's Ansar detention camp in South Lebanon told of stinking, crowded cells and meagre rations, and of camp guards who regularly shot at them from watch towers.

They said conditions were even worse at an interrogation centre before reaching Ansar, where they received electric shocks under the fingernails.

The prisoners said Israeli guards used to shoot at anyone crossing a white line near the barbed wire fence surrounding the bleak, hilltop Ansar Camp, before it was captured by its inmates.

Student Nidal Sofanji, 22, one of 752 prisoners freed, said seven were wounded last week.

"Most of the time they used exploding bullets. 32-year-old fighter Hassan Ismail told Reuters: "Medical facilities were rudimentary. Once somebody was wounded and the whole camp shouted in English, 'we want doctor, we want doctor' for an hour."

Harsh discipline was imposed in May 1984, after a man was killed trying to escape, and coincided with the arrival of Israel's elite Golan Brigade as camp guards, Ismail said.

He said guards began firing regularly, sometimes into tents in which most prisoners slept.

The prisoners used to play cards, backgammon or ball games, he said, but under new practices they had to sit for hours in the sun, hands on their heads. They were awakened at night for surprise headcounts and communication between different camp sections was banned.

The prisoners used to shout at the Israeli guards, "you are Nazis. You are Gestapo," Ismail said. They hated that.

"Sometimes we used to talk to them... some even accepted our point of view... In the end the officers forbade the soldiers from talking to us."

All captives arriving at Ansar were put in concrete close confinement cells for up to 10 days.

the detainees said.

"They put us in cells two metres by two metres without any blankets on the bare concrete," Hatem Bashroush, 24, said.

"There were 13 of us like sardines in a tin. It was freezing at night and boiling during the day."

Prisoners had little contact with the outside world. They said Israeli censors blocked out most of what was written in messages relayed by the International Red Cross messages, and they had to resort to smuggling out letters during rare family visits.

They said they were deeply suspicious and resentful that International Red Cross delegates, who visited Ansar weekly, did not do more to help them or publicise their plight.

But the prisoners said preliminary interrogations in the "Regie," a disused tobacco company building in the town of Nabatieh, were their worst experience.

Seven ex-prisoners interviewed separately by Reuters said Israeli

questioning at the Regie about mainly Lebanese resistance attacks in South Lebanon was accompanied by torture.

In each case, the prisoners said they were deprived of sleep and food for days before and during interrogation. If they failed to answer questions, the Israelis applied physical and psychological pressure.

This included beatings to keep men awake while sitting on a wet concrete floor, confinement in a room "cooled by an air-conditioner during the winter, and repeated electric shocks under the fingernails and to the head.

All those interviewed reported beatings in the genitals. Ismail said his interrogator slowly squeezed his testicles while he refused to answer questions.

Hassan Moussa, 25, said: "They made me sit 28 days on a chair. Blood was coming from my head. They gave me electric shocks under my fingernails and to my head through a helmet."

"But most of all they beat my testicles," he added, saying he had never admitted he was a Communist Party fighter.

Bashroush and a fellow inmate called Mohammad said they had both lost their hearing in one ear because of beatings.

The men said their interrogation at the Regie ranged from four to 47 days.

Three men said interrogators produced large syringes filled with coloured liquid and threatened to inject their testicles to sterilise them.

Other psychological pressure reported by ex-prisoners included threats to arrest relatives and wives, tape recordings of tortured screams and offers of better treatment in return for collaboration.

"When I arrived in Ansar, nobody could recognise me," Ismail said, pointing to scarred skin on his upper lip. "That was because as I was leaving the Regie an Israeli pulled out my moustache."

## Israel arrests 18 Arabs in W. Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — The Israeli "occupation" authorities have arrested 18 Arabs in the occupied Palestinian territories during the past two days, according to the Israeli Yediot Aharanot daily newspaper.

The newspaper said that the arrests followed the discovery of guns and ammunition stores belonging to the Arab youth who were planning attacks against occupation authorities.

According to news received from the occupied territories the detainees are from the villages of Um Al Fahem, Baqa Al Gharbi, Jer, A'rah, Iksal and Ain Mahel.

### TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
7:00-7:30 Karam	07:00 Newsweek 07:30 Land of a Thousand Dances 07:40 Financial Review
7:30-8:00 Cartoons	07:40-08:00 World News
8:00-8:30 Children's Programmes	08:00-08:30 News Summary 08:30 Good Books 08:40 Letter from America
8:30-9:00 That's Incredible	08:40-09:00 Newsweek 09:30 Jazz for the Asking
9:00-9:30 Health Programme	09:30-10:00 World News 10:00-10:30 News Summary
9:30-10:00 News Programme	10:30-11:00 News from Our Own Correspondents 11:00 Letter from London
10:00-10:30 Music	11:00-11:30 World News 11:30-12:00 Reflections
10:30-11:00 News in Arabic	12:00-12:30 The Pressure's Yours
11:00-11:30 Arabie Series (Eps. 2)	12:30-13:00 British Press Review 13:00 Sports Review 13:00-13:30 The Pleasures of Seeking
11:30-12:00 Tomorrow's Programmes	13:30-14:00 News Summary
12:00-12:30 Figures and Events	14:00-14:30 World News 14:30-15:00 World News
12:30-13:00 News Summary (in Arabic)	15:00-15:30 World News 15:30-16:00 World News

FOREIGN CHANNEL
17:30-18:00 Varieties
18:00-18:30 News in French
18:30-19:00 News in Hebrew
19:00-19:30 News in Arabic
19:30-20:00 Full House
20:00-20:30 History of Television
20:30-21:00 News in English
21:00-21:30 Kin Eps. (12)

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW
07:00-07:30 Light Music
07:30-08:00 Newsweek
08:00-08:30 Morning Show
08:30-09:00 News Summary
09:00-09:30 Pop Session
09:30-10:00 News Summary
10:00-10:30 Pop Session Contd.
10:30-11:00 News Bulletin
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VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260, KHz: 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 & 12310
06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30 News Summary VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 07:30 News Summary VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Focus 08:30 News Summary VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 VOA Morning 09:30 News Summary VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 News 10:30 News 10:40 News 10:50 News 11:00 News 11:10 News 11:20 News 11:30 News 11:40 News 11:50 News 12:00 News 12:10 News 12:20 News 12:30 News 12:40 News 12:50 News 13:00 News 13:10 News 13:20 News 13:30 News 13:40 News 13:50 News 14:00 News 14:10 News 14:20 News 14:30 News 14:40 News 14:50 News 15:00 News 15:10 News 15:20 News 15:30 News 15:40 News 15:50 News 16:00 News 16:10 News 16:20 News 16:30 News 16:40 News 16:50 News 17:00 News 17:10 News 17:20 News 17:30 News 17:40 News 17:50 News 18:00 News 18:10 News 18:20 News 18:30 News 18:40 News 18:50 News 19:00 News 19:10 News 19:20 News 19:30 News 19:40 News 19:50 News 20:00 News 20:10 News 20:20 News 20:30 News 20:40 News 20:50 News 21:00 News 21:10 News 21:20 News 21:30 News 21:40 News 21:50 News 22:00 News 22:10 News 22:20 News 22:30 News 22:40 News 22:50 News 23:00 News 23:10 News 23:20 News 23:30 News 23:40 News 23:50 News 24:00 News

### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### TODAY'S EVENTS

##### EXHIBITIONS

\* Art exhibition by Ayyash Al Nemer at the Petra Bank Gallery.

\* Photography exhibition at Yarmouk University.

\* Scientific exhibitions of computers, electronics and chemical and scientific experiments at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Science.

##### FILM FESTIVAL

\* A festival of French films at Philadelphia Cinema in Jabal Amman — (Les Ambassadeurs)

##### CULTURAL WEEK

\* Omani cultural week at the Royal Cultural Centre.

##### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 661026/7

American Centre 644371

British Council 636147-8

French Cultural Centre 637009

Goethe Institute 641093

Soviet Cultural Centre 644203

Spanish Cultural Centre 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre 634977

Haya Arab Centre 665195

Hussain Youth City 667181

Y.W.C.A. 641793

Y.W.M.A. 664251

Amman Municipal Library 636111

University of Jordan Library 843555

##### MUSEUMS

Fallah Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also treasures from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munassir, Jabal Ludweish. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

Martyrs' Memorial (Dhikr al-Martyr): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.

Refugee Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1.30 p.m.

Ref



## Senior Egyptian official in Amman to prepare for joint committee meetings

AMMAN (R) — Egyptian Assistant Foreign Minister Abdul-Halim Badawi arrived in Amman Saturday to prepare for a meeting of the supreme joint Jordanian-Egyptian committee, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Mr. Badawi said the meeting would be held here in the second half of April. He said that he would also discuss bilateral relations and interests common to both countries in support of Arab cooperation.

Mr. Badawi is in Amman upon an invitation from secretary general at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Saleh Zu'bi. Mr. Badawi praised existing Jordanian-Egyptian ties and added that both countries are witnessing a rapid growth in cultural, social and economic links of cooperation.

The joint committee was set up during the visit of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to Jordan in October 1984, when relations between the two countries were restored after a seven-year break.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Senate to discuss provisional laws

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper House of Parliament Monday will discuss 23 provisional laws in addition to some draft laws referred to the Senate by three of its committees, eight by the legal committee, 12 by the financial committee and three provisional laws referred by the education committee.

### Ramtha hospital constructs landing strip

RAMTHA (Petra) — Work has been completed on the construction of a landing strip for helicopters at Ramtha hospital to facilitate the transport of emergency cases to Amman, Ramtha Hospital Director Abdullah Quteish has said.

### ACC director to chair annual credit talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) Director General Sami Sunna will leave for Morocco Sunday to chair the annual meeting of the executive board for the Near East, North African Agricultural Credit Association scheduled to be held from April 8-10. The association includes 32 Arab agricultural banks and institutions in its membership.

### Karak organises cross-country race

AMMAN (Petra) — The Department of Education in Karak is organising an eight-kilometre cross-country race Monday for students of preparatory schools in Karak Governorate. The race, to be patronised by Karak Governor Ahmad Qura, will be contested by 240 students.

### Badran to open art exhibition Monday

IRBID (J.T.) — An exhibition of art works by Samia Zaru will be opened by Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran Monday. The exhibition is organised by the Arab Women Graduates Club and will be held at Irbid University campus from April 8-10.

### Newspaper donates copies to youth office

AMMAN (Petra) — Akhbar Al Osba', (News of the Week), the weekly Jordanian newspaper, has donated 100 copies weekly to the Ministry of Youth's recently-established section for Jordanian youth abroad. The section will circulate the copies to Jordanians studying in Arab and foreign countries.

### Jordanian dies in Baghdad

AMMAN (Petra) — The Foreign Ministry has requested the family of Tawfiq Mohammad Hassan, who died recently in Baghdad, to call at the ministry's consular section as early as possible.



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Saturday patronise the inauguration of an Omani cultural week at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman (Petra photo)

## Dignitaries, officials congratulate Rifai

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Saturday received at his office former Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat who congratulated Mr. Rifai on his appointment.

Mr. Rifai also received the Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Lawzi, Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akel Al Fayez, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'ad Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sherif Zaid Ibn Shaker, senior armed forces officers, Chief Justice Sheikh Mohammad Mheilan, and Sharia and Islamic law scholars who also extended their congratulations to Mr. Rifai in the presence of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Majali and Minister of Prime Ministry Affairs Hazem Nusseibeh.

Delegations representing all sectors of society also visited the Prime Ministry and offered their congratulations to Mr. Rifai including ex-prime ministers, members of parliament, former ministers, senior government officials, senior army, police civil defence and intelligence officers, Muslim and Christian religious leaders, department directors and trade and industry officials. Delegations also included tribal and refugee camp dignitaries, local governors, municipal leaders, university presidents, deans and professors in addition to members of the public. Also congratulating the new prime minister were deans of community colleges and the commander and officers of the Pal-

estine Liberation Army. Ministers also received at their offices senior officials, dignitaries and delegations extending congratulations on the ministers' new appointments.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai (right) receives congratulations from former Prime Minister Ahmad Obaidat (to Mr. Rifai's right) Saturday at the Prime Ministry (above). During the day Mr. Rifai also received Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and parliament members who congratulated him on his appointment (below).



## Mental illnesses on the increase due to stress, doctors say

By Simonetta Carr  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In Jordan, mental health is a field which is often still surrounded by a "magical aura". So many people are still reluctant to seek professional counselling on mental and emotional problems, fearing the opinions of others, that statistics are generally poor in this field.

"While misconceptions are undoubtedly changing, especially among educated people, it is still common for many to associate mental problems with madness. Seeing a psychiatrist is, in their opinion, admitting to be crazy. It's humiliating," says Dr. Asem Abu Farha, general director of Mental Health Services at the Ministry of Health. "Often, neighbours or colleagues fall into the same misconception and tend to ridicule and despise mental illnesses instead of viewing them for what they really are — diseases which, just as physical ones, can progress with time and care and usually come to rehabilitation. That is why many still prefer to visit traditional healers instead, often with disastrous consequences," he adds.

"One is always hopeful," says Dr. Mohammad Al Farekh, a private psychiatrist in Amman, "that as the country progresses to all fields, the people in Jordan will have the awareness that all of us are really susceptible to mental illness and will be more kind and humane towards their fellow human beings."

### Health delivery

Mental health services, as other health services, are delivered in Jordan by the Ministry of Health, the Royal Medical Services and private practitioners. The Ministry of Health's psychiatric services include two main hospitals in Amman — Fuhais Psychiatric Hospital and Karameh Hospital, each with 100 beds — and outpatient clinics in Amman, Irbid and Zarqa. A new Fuhais Hospital will be opened this year consisting of 200 beds.

The first psychiatric hospital was opened in Jordan in 1926 when some Italian sisters in Bet-

lehem made their convent available for the delivery of mental services, becoming nurses themselves. The hospital was equipped with 300 beds. In the late 1950's, His Majesty King Hussein gave, by Royal Decree, the 100-dunum area surrounding the hospital to the hospital in order to expand its premises and develop mental services in the country.

With the loss of Bethlehem, the Kingdom also suffered the loss of such a large mental hospital, but the development of mental services in Jordan is still considered a priority by the authorities and, as Dr. Abu Farha says, "In the last few years the government services have been expanding fast." He also adds that, although there is still much to be done to perfect these services, they are more advanced than those in other Middle Eastern countries and many patients come to Jordan from Saudi Arabia, Syria, Yemen and other countries to seek professional psychiatric help.

As in other areas of medical services, however, technical perfection is somewhat of a "missing goal" for developing countries which need better distribution of services rather than highly specialised and centralised facilities. Dr. Radwan Ali, psychiatrist and deputy of the director of Psychiatric Services at the King Hussein Medical Centre, says, in fact, that the country is in great need of more in-patient facilities. The psychiatric unit at the King Hussein Medical Centre only comprises 40 beds, so that, due to the great number of patients treated by the hospital, it can be used only as acute admission unit, for short-term hospitalisation. When long-term hospitalisation is required, the hospital has to refer the patients to government hospital, where they are usually rejected for lack of beds. Dr. Ali hopes that the opening of the new Fuhais hospital will alleviate this problem.

### Family care

In the meantime, those patients who cannot benefit from hospitalisation are usually cared for by their families. "This is according to our country's customs," Dr. Ali continues, "where parents

still feel responsible for their offspring regardless of their age, but it is not always the best situation. Often patients need more intensive specialised care and the burden which falls on their families is felt by the patients and creates social problems which aggravate the situation". Dr. Ali believes that a solution to this problem would be better organised social services in the country, such as community nursing.

The psychiatric unit at the King Hussein Medical Centre includes physicians, generic nurses, psychiatrists, psychiatric nurses, psychologists, social workers and one occupational therapist. The treatment depends heavily on chemotherapy, but psychotherapy and other methods are also used according to the need. The psychiatric branch of the Royal Medical Services first started in the 1960s at the Amman Military Hospital with a separate psychiatric unit.

After the opening of the King Hussein Medical Centre, the unit was moved to new premises in 1976. It is the only psychiatric unit in Jordan today to be embodied within a general hospital. "This helps to increase the number of patients," Dr. Ali explains, "since it removes the stigma associated with a mental hospital".

Dr. Farekh also believes that having a psychiatric unit embodied in a general hospital is beneficial to the patients who are not feeling "exiled" in some special isolated institute. He hopes that this example will be followed by other hospitals in the country. The psychiatric unit at the King Hussein Medical Centre is also the only unit in the hospital itself which has male and female wards in the same compound. Each ward comprises 20 beds which, as Dr. Ali explains, are almost always full.

The Royal Medical Services also include 14 outpatient psychiatric clinics, five of which are sited at the King Hussein Medical Centre, three at the Amman Military Hospital, three at the first field hospital in Irbid, and three at the second field hospital in Zarqa. The number of attendances per clinic is between 15 and 25 patients per day.

The private sector's psychiatric clinics are 10-12 in Amman, two in Zarqa and two in Irbid, according to Dr. Farekh. They only serve as outpatient clinics, although Dr. Farekh hopes that private inpatient facilities will be available in this country to serve the public hand in hand with public institutions.

While Dr. Ali believes the Royal Medical Services provide a good referral system through their military organisation, Dr. Farekh regrets that patients usually see private psychiatrists on their own accord and that they are rarely sent by their general practitioners.

### Modern stresses

The number of patients for both government and private clinics, and hospitals is definitely on the increase, due partially to a growing awareness of the problem, partially to the many ill of modern life which are now affecting Jordan as well as the rest of the developed world. This is particularly evident in the cities due to urbanisation, stress, family fragmentation, and so on. "Life is no longer simple," says Dr. Abu Farha. "There are more demands, more stressful situations, more loneliness. The diseases which have mostly increased are, in fact, anxiety and depression, which are common consequences of our modern pace of life, so much that today it is almost abnormal not to suffer from anxiety".

The main psychiatric ailments treated by government clinics and hospitals are schizophrenia, epilepsy and depression. Private clinics encounter more cases of neurosis, since neurotic patients tend to attend the private outpatient clinics which are more confidential than the government centres.

Most patients who consult government and private clinics are male, although this is no implication that men actually suffer from more psychiatric problems than women. On the contrary, Dr. Farekh believes that there are more neurotic women than men, here as elsewhere. "Often, men in Jordan are the ones who have the money and the courage to consult a specialist", he explains.

Miss Nasrin Malayery, World Health Organisation (WHO) consultant at the University of Jordan adds that women in Arab countries seem particularly vulnerable to the middle age crisis connected with menopause, when they feel useless and depressed, "while in the U.S. and Europe they usually keep active through their jobs and/or other interests," she says. Years ago, women at that age were still kept busy and highly respected by their children and grandchildren, while today's family fragmentation and upturning of values tends to degrade traditional women's roles, contributing to this problem.

### Old and young

The problem of seniles, which is so common today in Western countries, where they feel lonely and rejected, has not yet become a problem here, partially because family ties are still somehow present, partially because, as Dr. Farekh points out, the style of life, the rich food and the heavy smoking among Jordanians considerably reduces the average life-span. He adds, however, that he has personally seen some old people being rejected and young people looking forward to sending their older relatives to the old people's home outside Amman.

Generally speaking, however, most patients who seek psychiatric help are young. "This", Dr. Farekh explains, "goes in harmony with international observations. I see bachelors and divorced men more than married men, which again proves that our society has created greater loneliness, which is at the base of many mental illnesses".

While Westernisation is undoubtedly causing irreversible changes in the Jordanian lifestyle, Dr. Abu Farha believes that the impact here has not been as rapid and traumatic as in other developing countries. Westernisation here has started in the 1950s, he says, "while in the Gulf states, for example, people have gone from the desert to Houston, so to speak, with very little time to adapt to the new situation".

## Exhibition displays aspects of Oman's heritage

# King, Queen inaugurate Omani cultural week

By Rama Sabbagh  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor Saturday patronised the inauguration of an Omani cultural week at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman.

The King and Queen toured the various displays at the Omani exhibition which portrays life in the Sultanate and then attended a stage show presented by Omani national folklore groups.

Attending the opening were Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Omani Minister of National Heritage and Culture Faisal Ibn Ali Ibn Faisal who arrived in Amman Friday on a visit expected to last several days, Omani Ambassador to Amman Abdullah Sa'ed and Minister of Information, Culture, Tourism and Antiquities Mohammad Al Kharib.

The Omani week includes cultural and folklore activities and exhibitions and aims to introduce Omani cultural achievements to Jordan. Included in the activities is an Omani book exhibition with 400 literature, fairy-tale books, wild-life and nature periodicals, art and philosophical books which depict Omani heritage and culture.

At the RCC exhibition hall is an impressive large arrangement of geometrical displays using the colours of the Omani flag. Here are samples illustrating the culture and heritage of Oman. Besides each illustration or object, is information in Arabic and English with details about each article.

An exhibition of Oman's history from 3rd millennium B.C. to present times shows past civilisations, culture and Oman's great sea-faring traditions, which are highlighted by a large display of Sindhbad's voyages. These sea trading voyages were part of Omani heritage and, according to legend, Sindhbad, the famous sailor, came from Sohar, a town on the coast of Oman. However, until recently, the tales of Sindhbad's voyages were dismissed as fables, but the Sindhbad project, sponsored by the Omani Ministry of National Heritage and Culture in 1981, involved sailing an eighteenth century replica of Arab trading vessel along a 6,000 mile trade route from Muscat to Canton in China, proving that such long voyages were possible. Another important historical event was the appointment of the first Arab ambassador to the United States as depicted and illustrated in the story of Sultanah voyage which took place about 150 years ago.

## Administrators try to simplify customs forms

AMMAN (Petra) — A team of experts have been involved for the last two weeks in a study that aims to simplify customs procedures, according to Institute of Public Administration (IPA) Director General Abdullah Olan.

Dr. Zaki Hashem of Kuwait University arrived here Saturday on a visit expected to last several days and to participate in the team's study.

Mr. Olan said that the team, which is composed of IPA and Customs Department experts, will work on a simplifying customs procedures, improving and developing customs forms and publishing a new guide for customs work.

He explained that this project is part of IPA's programme for 1985 which aims to simplify procedures at all government departments, especially those which provide direct services to the public.

## Bahraini health minister arrives for official visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Bahraini Minister of Health Jawad Al Areeed arrived in Amman Saturday at the head of a Bahraini health delegation on a few-day official visit to Jordan during which they will hold talks with a number of Jordanian officials.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Areeed said that he will meet with Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh for discussions on issues pertaining to health cooperation between the two countries and means of supporting and bolstering this cooperation.

Mr. Areeed was received upon arrival at the Queen Alia International Airport by Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh and a number of ministry officials.

## Amman police arrest kidnapper; two persons reported missing

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman police have arrested a person after he kidnapped a child from a school in Nazal area last week. The Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper reported Saturday.

The report said that the person, who waited all morning in front of Mary the Coptic School, was spotted by the school headmistress who immediately called the police.

The report did not identify the

## International consultants study Jordan's industrial sector, export potentials

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An international management consultants firm is currently carrying out an in-depth study on Jordan's industrial sector to identify and recommend solutions to problems which impose constraints on exports of goods produced in the Kingdom.

The study, initiated by the Ministry of Industry and Trade in coordination with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), which is financing the survey, is expected to be ready by the end of this month, according to the head of the study team.

Bab Hodgson of the London-office of Coopers and Lybrand Associates, which has been assigned by USAID to conduct the study, said "it is premature to say anything about the outcome of the survey".

A seven-member Coopers and Lybrand team, which arrived in Amman in mid-March, has met with a number of officials from several private and public sector organisations and businessmen.

The team's members have met with officials of the Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation, the Agricultural Credit Corporation, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, the Pension Fund, the Social Security Corporation, the Free Zones Corporation, the Jordan Cooperative Organisation, the Industrial Development Bank and various local and foreign banks operating in Jordan in various stages of the study.

### Official talks

Furthermore, the team has also met with officials of various ministries concerned with trade and industry and the Central Bank of Jordan to evaluate the existing system of government support and

control over manufacturing industries and exports.

"We would look at the production capacity of the manufacturing industry in the country, possibilities of setting up new industries, and review export procedures," Mr. Hodgson said. "Our team consists of experts in various fields and all their findings will be put together and the emerging picture will be submitted to the concerned authorities."

Mr. Hodgson declined to comment any further. "We are here to conduct the study and submit it to the concerned authorities," he said. "We evaluate the merits as well as drawbacks of the existing system and pinpoint factors — both positive and negative — and suggest possible remedies to increase the country's exports if such solutions are warranted and feasible."

### Export constraints

Asked whether it is an accepted fact that there are constraints on existing procedures for the export of Jordanian-produced goods, Mr.

Hodgson replied: "Let us put it this way. There is a lot that could be done to increase Jordan's exports." He did not elaborate.

Coopers and Lybrand is an international organisation with offices all over the globe employing about 30,000 technical and economic experts. The study team currently in Jordan consists of five experts from London and two from the firm's Washington office, which was assigned the task of conducting the study by USAID.

The team is working in cooperation with the Amman-based Arab World Studies Institute, a wholly Jordanian-owned consultants firm.

The current study is perhaps the first of its kind to be conducted in Jordan in that its prime focus is the industrial sector. A number of past studies, including one carried out by the World Bank, aimed at an overall picture of the country's economy and various factors related to it among which the industrial sector figured prominently but not as the focal point as in the present study.

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## Sunday's Economic Pulse

# A new government to turn the economy around

By Fahed Fanek

AFTER QUITE a time as an observer, Zaid Rifa'i is back to the helm of the government which he left almost ten years ago. He is called upon to introduce changes, reactivate the Jordanian economy and turn it around.

This is no easy job to undertake. The new prime minister will find thorny problems on his desk. He will need the support of the people in order to succeed, first in stopping the downward trend, and second for reversing it and returning to a healthy and progressing economy.

After ten years as an outsider, Mr. Rifa'i will find that the economic landscape has changed tremendously. It advanced a lot in quantity terms

and deteriorated a lot in quality and structure. His challenge is to maintain and protect the quantitative gains but make the crucial adjustments to alleviate or eliminate the structural imbalances which crept on the national economy.

From the quantitative point of view, he shall find that the gross national product has grown in ten years by 550 per cent in current prices or 165 per cent in constant prices, an annual growth of 10.2 per cent in real terms, reflecting an important improvement in the per capita income or standard of living of 6.2 per cent, which is quite an achievement.

However, the structure of the national economy, while progressing quantitatively depending on easy money, was at the same time retreating in many other ways.

The budget dependency on external aid increased from JD 57.7 million in 1974 to JD 206 million in 1981, an annual increase of 20 per cent. It later dropped involuntarily.

External annual borrowing — both developmental and commercial — jumped from JD 16.4 million to JD 170.5 million, an annual increase of 26 per cent in current prices or 15.6 per cent in real terms.

Trade deficit inflated eightfold, increasing from JD 106

million to JD 890 million, an average annual deterioration rate of 23.7 per cent in current prices or 13.2 per cent in real terms.

Deficit in the current account of the balance of payments which stood at JD 83.8 in 1974 is now running at JD 436 million, a retreat of 18 per cent a year in current prices or 8 per cent in real terms.

The percentage of contribution of domestic product in meeting the expenditure on both consumption and investment dropped from 68.1 per cent to 36.1 per cent. We have to depend on more imports for the balance.

External public debt escalated from a reasonable JD 80

million to a sky-high JD 1 billion, more than 12 times.

It is astonishing that Jordan borrowed that much in the very years of abundant Arab aid that the present government will have to repay these heavy debts at a time when Arab aid is shrinking and the economy growth is slowing down.

The imbalances were not growing in absolute terms only. Most of these imbalances were growing even as a percentage of gross national product, an evidence that we spent 10 years going full speed away from the target of self-sufficiency!

It is fortunate that the King, the ultimate guardian of the overall well-being of the Jor-

danian economy, has installed a new administration with a clear mandate to introduce the necessary changes, to activate the suppressed private sector and take the badly-needed measures to put the house in order.

It is evident that the obstacles are formidable, but the Jordanian economy is relatively flexible and responds well to economic measures. The government can and must succeed.

The expectations are too high, but we can afford giving the new government some breathing time to formulate policies and plans and build up the team that can transform them to reality.

## High expectations from government

ZAID RIFA'I is not a newcomer to government. This is his fourth term as prime minister — and might not be the last. The man is a veteran Jordanian politician and an experienced leader. We wish him and his colleagues every success in carrying out their duties and in shouldering the responsibilities with which His Majesty the King has entrusted them.

Although Mr. Rifa'i's natural place seems to be in government, he did an outstanding job while outside of it.

As a private citizen and a member of the Upper House of Parliament during Mr. Obeidat's tenure and before, Mr. Rifa'i chose not to silence but often presented his own candid views on the various issues and said what he thought was best for the country. In this respect at least, we are both confident and hopeful that the new prime minister would uphold his democratic values and open the door for his predecessors and other political figures in the country to express their opinions frankly and honestly while they too are outside of the government.

We feel that it is an important practice for any government to keep the channels open to other points of view and opposition policies. Just as the prime minister well knows, it is not acceptable for former officials or politicians to keep an unhealthy silence over disputed issues of great concern to Jordan; the right, healthy thing to do is for every responsible individual to speak his or her mind and keep the government informed of their position. This democratic practice should in no way be seen as an intent to curry favour with the incumbent cabinet in any given case nor as a method to fight it in any other. Our country is strong enough to withstand and deal effectively with all democratic challenges posed to it; and a democratic society in Jordan is within our reach if we want it. Mr. Rifa'i's government could do a lot to bring us closer there. And that is what we expect from it.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: For addressing shortcomings

JORDANIANS HEARD with satisfaction the contents of Prime Minister Zaid Rifa'i's reply letter to the King in which he pledged to carry out radical reforms on the domestic front. He said amendments to the laws and regulations are necessary so that the development process can continue successfully. This orientation in the internal policy is aimed at improving the economic and social systems which our society is in bad need of.

The pledge to introduce reforms means that the new government of Mr. Rifa'i will act towards eliminating all root causes of ill management and corruption and will be characterised with integrity in all its measures for improving Jordan's image internally and externally. The new government will thus be faced with an enormous task of addressing shortcomings and questioning those responsible for them. In this, it will be helping to protect democratic rule and enhancing freedom in the country.

By handling its various tasks with integrity and seriousness and by discharging the affairs of government business with efficiency the cabinet ministers can present a bright image about Jordan to the outside world because our internal situation is reflected externally on the international scene. We welcome these ideas and the programme of the new government and look forward to see it translated into action.

### Al Dustour: Change cannot be diverted

THE ON-GOING disturbances in Sudan and the demonstrations and violence in the country's towns and cities these days reflect a widening of the gap separating the people from their ruler and foretell a gloomy outlook for the country unless the real causes of events are removed.

No doubt, the country is facing difficulties on the domestic front rendering it vulnerable to external pressures that are being translated into hard terms being imposed on the Khartoum government. The Sudanese government, faced with these pressures, has been taking unjustified measures, enraging the masses and driving them into staging anti-government demonstrations that breed violence. The more the pressures, the more the street violence that has been taking place in Sudan, a country that has suffered so long from poverty and corruption.

The Sudanese people are going through difficult times, due to bad economy, and now they are made to face hard government decisions and are exposed to repression and harsh punishment. Unless these measures are removed and unless the external pressures on the government end, the violence will continue. If the government continues to strike at one political group after another, the country will certainly be heading towards a civil war.

We sincerely hope that Sudan will overcome the present crisis through wisdom and rationality. But the lesson to be learnt from all this is clear to all and points to the fact that unless the masses are involved in taking decisions about their own affairs, the country will never enjoy immunity in the face of external pressures.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Not an easy job

THE BASIC principles contained in King Hussein's letter to the new government present it with an enormous task and shifts a heavy burden on the cabinet ministers. These principles, which cover all internal and external issues, should be handled with the utmost care amidst a very difficult and complicated Arab situation.

The new government has the task of handling the domestic social and economic problems and at the same time deal with external relations in a manner so as to achieve Arab solidarity. Jordan should keep the door open for dialogue with Arab countries with the aim of ending Arab differences and unifying Arab resources and efforts, and at the same time should tackle the numerous internal issues with the purpose of guaranteeing a strong domestic front.

On the Arab level, King Hussein has instructed the new government to support Iraq in its endeavours to defend Arab land, to continue backing the Palestine Liberation Organisation and to carry out measures aimed at restoring Arab solidarity. On the internal front, the royal letter to the government made it clear that everything should be done to ensure the protection of the nation and for measures to be taken to reactivate the economy and to enhance national unity. Therefore, the task of the new government is not a bed full of roses but rather a soft ground which should be stepped on with great care.

## Numeiri kept power cultivating army, U.S. support

From Reuters

KHARTOUM — Sudan's Jaafar Numeiri spent 16 years at the helm in this key African country by nurturing support from the army and the United States and playing off rival factions among his 22 million people.

As a young colonel, he was chosen by his fellow officers to head the May 1969 bloodless coup that ended five years of corrupt civilian rule in Sudan, geographically Africa's largest country.

By the early 1980s, ousted President Numeiri, though now a field marshal, was wearing by a score of abortive plots and rebellions, in poor health and deserted by all but a few of his original supporters. He seemed almost overwhelmed by his country's pressing problems.

Field-Marshal Numeiri began as a left-wing army admirer of the late Gamal Abdul Nasser of Egypt. With the years, smashing insurrection by Muslim groups and then by the left, he shifted steadily right to become a staunch U.S. ally.

Then, in 1983, in what was seen as a bid to outflank Islamic fundamentalists, he poured Khartoum's liquor stocks into the Nile and imposed Shari'a (Islamic law). Floggings, amputations and the public hanging of a 76-year-old Muslim dissenter outraged West-

ern liberals and many of his own people.

By early 1985 it looked as if "the great survivor" could be playing his last cards.

Sudan, nearly bankrupt, owed \$9 billion. It was stricken by drought, burdened by an influx of Ethiopian and Chadian famine refugees and torn by a rebellion in a disaffected Christian and animist non-Arab south.

Numeiri had said Shari'a was meant to discipline his people, raise productivity and rescue Sudan from disaster. But by March 1985 he was saying: "I have no money to buy petrol."

He devalued the Sudanese pound by 48 per cent and slashed state food subsidies, causing a 33 per cent bread price rise.

As he flew to seek more aid from the U.S. which had urged economic and other reforms, bread riots broke out, then widened to take on a more openly political tone.

"We are concerned about the stability, the strength of the government of Sudan," a senior U.S. official said as Numeiri arrived in Washington to meet President Reagan. The U.S. then agreed to release \$67 million in economic assistance.

Weeks earlier Numeiri, in a typical turnaround, had purged his regime of the fundamentalist Muslim

Brotherhood which was held largely responsible for the "Islamisation" programme.

This, however, failed to placate the rebel Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) whose clandestine radio spurned an offer of peace talks and pledged to overthrow Numeiri.

Ironically, the signal achievement of his early years in power had been a 1972 agreement ending a 17-year bush war between the central government and southern rebels.

Numeiri accused Libya and Marxist Ethiopia of backing the renewed rebellion. He blamed Libya for a mysterious incident in 1984 when a lone aircraft bombed Omdurman.

A devout Muslim, married with no children, Jaafar Mohammad Al-Numeiri was born in Omdurman on Jan. 1, 1930, into a modest urban family. At 20 he entered the Khartoum Military Academy and was there when the late President Nasser and his "free officers" took power in Egypt in 1952.

Numeiri and several other graduates of the academy were inspired to form an organisation within the Sudanese Army patterned on the Nasserite model, leading to his arrest by the military government of Marshal Ibrahim

Aboud. After that regime was overthrown in 1964, a suspicious civilian government kept Numeiri abroad on training assignments.

These included a stint in the U.S. where he attained a master's degree in military science in 1965.

Numeiri and his old military academy classmates plotted their own coup, staged on May 25, 1969. It succeeded without initial bloodshed, but struggles followed with the Muslim right wing "Ansar" sect and the Communist Party.

In 1970, he crushed the Ansars after a bid to kill him and a failed rising in Omdurman, and the following year put down a coup attempt by pro-Communist officers, executing their leaders.

Relations with the Soviet bloc cooled abruptly and Numeiri turned to the United States and other Western nations. That shift also distanced him from Libya, under President Muammar Qadhafi, and for a while, from Egypt.

Within his own country Numeiri, who as a serving soldier had seen the bitterness of the southern bush war, gained great credit by negotiating an end to it.

But plots and coup attempts recurred. The right wing tried in 1975. Libya and Ethiopia were accused of being behind a 1976 attempt in which 800 people died. Libya was again blamed in March

1981 when 56 people were arrested for plotting Numeiri's overthrow.

Col. Qadhafi branded Numeiri an enemy of the Arabs for supporting Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's 1979 peace treaty with Israel and holding military exercises with the United States and Egypt.

Diplomats say Sudan, strategically placed in Africa and bordering eight countries, was in the early 1980s cast in a key role in contingency plans for use of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force in the Middle East.

In 1982 Numeiri appeared to be in serious trouble. At the behest of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) he introduced a biting austerity programme to curb imports and cut state spending.

When sugar subsidies were removed, sending up the price by 60 per cent, students took to the streets. Several died. A shanty town was set ablaze in Port Sudan.

The same month Numeiri suddenly dismissed his first vice-president, general Abdul-Maguid Hamid Khalil, and 22 other army officers. Diplomats speculated that he felt his widely-respected right-hand man had accumulated too much power.

Numeiri seemed concerned less about his traditional army power base than the rising influence of

the Muslim Brotherhood. The fundamentalists were not allowed to operate as a formal political party but before the March 1985 purge exercised considerable power working through the Sudanese Socialist Union, the only legal party.

Some opponents said Numeiri's Islamisation of Sudan was a ploy to lure student support away from the Brotherhood, or that he had become dependent on them to stay in power. Others said he hoped for Saudi cash as a result of the policy.

Diplomats said personal conviction was likely to have shaped Numeiri's thinking. One, noting his several medical checks in the U.S., said Numeiri wanted to make his peace with God.

Numeiri himself said he saw Islamic law as the only way to rescue Sudan from crushing poverty and recurrent strife.

The reforms, he said "finally... put the country on the right path." He looked to Islam "to bring about harmony between social and material development. Dreams of the past have now become a reality."

But with famine, drought and what the Times of London called "an increasingly corrupt and inefficient administration" at the centre, Numeiri's reality still appeared more like a dream.



## Mozambican commuters terrorised

By Peter Gregson

MARRACUENE, Mozambique — Vehicles began to assemble at this village on an island from the Indian Ocean 30 kilometres north of Maputo at about 7 a.m.

By nine o'clock when they moved off on the 90-minute drive to Incaia, further north in Gaza province, they were a motley file of 94 trucks, buses and cars, some of them so old and battered it seemed impossible they were still running.

The daily convoy began in February after terrorists of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR, also known as Renamo), who have escalated their attacks around the capital Maputo in the past six months, attacked buses along the route, wrecking them and slaughtering the passengers.

But the protection the army can offer the travellers and trucks loaded with food, cement and logs is flimsy. There are no escort vehicles. Instead small groups of soldiers with automatic rifles and grenade launchers climb onto the back of lorries where there is space or take empty seats in cars.

The commander, a sergeant, summoned one of the newer cars to lead the way, climbed into the front passenger seat and the string of vehicles lumbered off.

The convoy runs about 100 kilometres into Gaza province, which with neighbouring Inhambane are the two of Mozambique's 10 provinces least affected by rebel activities at present.

"Where are the bandits (bandits)?" I asked a soldier. He waved to the distance. "How far?" he shrugged.

Around Maputo, soldiers man checkpoints on all roads at intervals from two to 10 kilometres. Some are no more than a piece of string stretched across the road and a few consist of troops in tattered camouflage outfits lying at the side.

The soldiers have no transport and flag down cars to get lifts from one control post to another.

But few of the roads are safe to travel. "Every time you stick your head on the road you take risks," a United Nations relief official said. "The MNR operate at will. A year ago you could drive to south Africa and back in a day, now you cannot go at all," a Western diplomat added.

Mozambique and South Africa, hitherto bitter foes, last March signed a non-aggression accord on their joint border only 60 kilometres west of Maputo.

Despite a promise in the pact for Pretoria to end direct assistance to the MNR, Mozambique's security

problems in the past year have worsened instead of improving as expected.

Early in January, following the killings of at least nine foreign aid workers, the government warned diplomatic missions it could no longer guarantee the security of foreign nationals.

Last month, the northeastern port of Ncala was shelled and Finnish experts working there withdrew as fears spread among foreign aid workers that they had been singled out for attack.

Wide areas of the pock-marked capital, a ghost of its former glory as an Indian Ocean playground, suffer day after day of blackouts as rebels knock out electricity pylons as quickly as they can be repaired.

"Renamo has surprised" both sides," a European diplomat said, "but they can't win. They're not that sort of an organisation."

"They have no political base. They have never been very unified or centralised. Renamo is against the government, but who knows what they are for?" he said.

Officials and diplomats are hard-pressed to explain why the MNR, which they estimate has about 15,000 men, was able to step up its actions so sharply in the past year, particularly around Maputo which previously had been barely touched by war.

Most diplomats agreed that before signing the Nkomati non-aggression accord, South Africa had handed over large amounts of supplies to the MNR to enable it to operate for a long time yet.

Pretoria has acknowledged that it used to back the rebels, but now says that support has ended. Last month it declared its border with Mozambique a restricted air space to counter Mozambican criticism that the MNR was still being supplied from South African soil, whether by the government or privately.

Diplomats also charged there was backing for the MNR from the "Portuguese connection", former settlers who fled mainly to South Africa and Portugal at independence in 1975, losing their property and belongings, and who now want revenge.

The main MNR office is in the Portuguese capital, Lisbon.

"Renamo is an awful lot of different things. They have created a Frankenstein, a monster that's now out of control."

"At the moment, it's a stand-off. The government can't deliver the knock-out punch and the hope is that Renamo will run out of juice. But we've not heard the last of it by any means," the Western diplomat added.

## Baghdad explosions baffle diplomats, signal escalation

By Tod Robberson

NICOSIA — Diplomats and Western military analysts in Baghdad say they are baffled by a series of explosions that have rocked the Iraqi capital since March 14.

Some say there is substantial evidence contradicting reports that the seven big blasts were caused by surface-to-surface missiles fired from Iran.

Iran has said it launched missiles at Baghdad near the time each of the explosions occurred, six of them overnight.

Other diplomats interviewed in Baghdad say they are convinced the explosions were caused by Soviet-made Scud-B missiles supplied to Iran either by Syria or Libya, although they offer no proof.

Iraqi authorities have released no casualty tolls, but figures given by hospital sources and witnesses indicate up to 80 people have been killed and hundreds injured, including scores who suffered minor cuts from shattered glass.

The last blast, in a public park on the Tigris River on March 31, apparently caused no casualties.

Iraq has given varying explanations for the explosions, blaming the first two on sabotage by Iranian agents but later substantiating Iranian claims that Baghdad and the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk were the target of missiles.

"Some Arab traitors gave the Iranians a number of missiles to strike at Baghdad and Kirkuk with the hope of terrifying the people of Iraq," said Iraqi President Saddam Hussein last week.

Western military analysts said they had been barred from the sites of four of the explosions and were unable to support the missile reports based on what they had seen at other sites.

"If only the Iraqis would let us go to the sites, we could make up our own minds. But based on what we know so far, the evidence is far from conclusive that these missiles fired from Iran," one embassy military attaché said.

Another diplomat said his embassy was refraining from mentioning missiles fired from Iran in

security briefing cables because there was no clear evidence.

Although diplomats disagreed about later explosions, they generally agreed that the first blast, which ripped through the 13-storey Rafidain Bank building, was caused by a bomb.

They said the building showed no characteristics of entry by a missile, such as a large blast mark at the supposed point of impact, nor had a single floor collapsed, as would probably have happened if a missile had pierced the building.

"This would indicate that some opposition group has surfaced again in the city. It certainly gives security people something to think about," said a diplomat.

A military analysis suggested Iraq had begun supporting Iran's missile claims when the bombings persisted and it became apparent Iraq faced a subversive campaign from within.

Iraq has not officially acknowledged a big explosion last Saturday in the town of Tikrit, 120 kilometres north of Baghdad, which Iran said was caused by two bombs planted by "Muslim revolutionaries" that killed 120 people.

Western military analysts said the Baghdad blasts, although powerful, did not seem to have been anywhere close to the strength of a Scud-B, which carries explosives equivalent to 1.3 tons of TNT.

They said some of the explosions could have been caused by short-range missiles fired from inside Iraq.

Each explosion occurred within a 2.5 square kilometre area of central Baghdad, and it was highly improbable that all missiles Iran says it fired at the city could have hit within such a small area, one military attaché said.

According to one unconfirmed report, Iran has been firing missiles from a base about 240 kilometres from Baghdad. The military attaché said that even under ideal circumstances and using the best meteorological equipment to monitor atmospheric conditions, only half of all missiles fired from such a distance would hit within one kilometre their target.



# ACC: Long way promoting farm produce

By P.V. Vivekanand

AMMAN — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC), which celebrates its silver jubilee this year, has come a long way since it was first established as the Agricultural Bank of Transjordan in 1922 and revitalised under the new name in 1960.

In the past 25 years the ACC has significantly contributed to the development of the agricultural sector of Jordan by helping needy farmers and entrepreneurs in the field of poultry and animal husbandry with loans in line with programmes outlined in the country's subsequent five-year development plans.

The ACC has 15 branches, stretching from Ramtha in the north to Ma'an in the south in the East Bank of Jordan, and maintains its staff in four branches in the West Bank despite the 18-year-old Israeli occupation of the territory.

The corporation grants loans ranging from JD 200 to JD 200,000 depending on the size of the project for which finance is sought by individual farmers or a group of farmers. "No loan is too small for us," says Dr. Sami Sunna, director general of the ACC since 1977. "We are always at hand to help needy farmers whether to help grow tomatoes or to buy mechanised farm equipment."

Furthermore, Dr. Sunna says, the corporation is also encouraging projects of poultry farms as well as cattle-breeding. "In fact these two sectors are among the top priorities of the corporation alongside with the agricultural sector," he told the Jordan Times.

The ACC also grants loans for projects of land reclamation, purchase and development of farmland including terracing, deep ploughing, sub-soiling, irrigation, fruit-tree planting, and manufacturing plants for cereals, bee-keeping and fisheries. "Any project that is technically and economically viable and can produce national returns receives our support," Dr. Sunna stressed.

The corporation follows a relatively simple, but most thorough, procedure to grant loans, maintaining a very close watch on projects under study and im-

plementation.

"Mutual trust and confidence have been our motto in dealing with the citizens and the fact that in only eight cases out of a total of over 40,000 loan transactions since 1960 we had to foreclose the loans is an indicator of the effectiveness and soundness of our procedures," Dr. Sunna told the Jordan Times. He also pointed out that out of a total of JD57 million lent since 1960, loans amounting to JD24 million have been repaid and only an amount of JD 186,000 represents defaulted payments — due for four years and over.

The loan procedures start with an application submitted by the needy farmer to the ACC branch in the related area. The application will be followed by a visit by a technical expert or "credit supervisor" of the corporation to the actual site of the project for a careful study of the soil conditions, feasibility of the planned crop and economic viability of the project.

The expert submits a report to the corporation branch, which approves or rejects the application depending on the powers granted to it. In cases of loan applications for amounts less than JD 1,000 a branch committee, which will also include a representative of the applicant, is empowered to take the decision, and for loans ranging from JD 1,000 to JD 6,000 a central committee at the ACC headquarters in Amman is the authority to approve or reject the application. The director-general of the corporation has to study all applications for loans ranging between JD 6,000 and JD 30,000 and the corporation's board of directors have to decide on any application for loans exceeding JD 30,000.

The corporation, under its present laws, can lend up to two per cent of its capital — which is now in the region of JD 12 million — to individual applicants and up to three per cent for a group of applicants.

Once the loan is granted, the corporation draws up a stage-by-stage payment programme of the loan amount to the applicant. The credit supervisor will visit the

project site periodically and prepare a report on the project's progress and submit it to the branch before the next payment of the loan is made to the applicant.

"These procedures help us ensure that the loan is used for the purpose it is intended for, while at the same time keep us informed of the overall progress in the project, no matter how small it could be," Dr. Sunna said. "Each and every project, either in farming, poultry or cattle-breeding, regardless of its size, has its own role in the overall development of the country and by keeping a close watch on such projects we are always in a position to follow up programmes as called for in the five-year development plans."

The ACC has classified its loans into four categories:

- Seasonal loans which are repayable in one year;
- Short-term loans (repayable in 24 months);
- Medium-term loans (repayable in two to 10 years); and
- Long-term loans (repayable in 10 to 15 years).

Seasonal loans are primarily aimed at helping needy farmers engaged in cultivating seasonal vegetables and fruits to buy fertilisers etc.

Poultry farms and crops which take over one year before they are ready for harvest come under short-term loans.

Medium term loans cover drip irrigation projects, plastic houses and farm equipment.

Long-term loans are mainly intended for land development projects — reclamation, fruit-tree planting, irrigation and farming equipment etc — and most of the time granted to groups of farmers.

Interest rates levied by the corporation are determined on the basis of the size of the project and the amount involved in order to ensure the competitiveness of the small farmer.

For instance, an applicant seeking JD 3,000 for a smallscale poultry farm with 10,000 birds will have to pay an interest of seven per cent over two years while another applicant who seeks JD 15,000 for a larger project with 50,000 birds will be charged slightly higher rate of interest. "This

ensures the small entrepreneurs' interests in the market while facing the advantages of the larger project owner," Dr. Sunna explained.

The ACC, in coordination with the Jordan Cooperative Organisation, the Industrial Development Bank (IDB), the Social Security Corporation (SSC) and the Pension Fund, has launched a new company to produce livestock. The JD 1.2 million-capital Jordan Livestock Development Company will produce "new breeds of high-yield sheep," said Dr. Sunna.

Another project under implementation is a fertilizer batching plant in the Jordan Valley in which the IDB, the Jordan Valley Farmers Association and the ACC are taking part.

The ACC share in the Jordan Livestock Development Company is 12.5 per cent while it holds equal share with the IDB and the farmers association in the JD 450,000 fertilizer project, which will produce fertilizers to suit given types of soil conditions and crop.

"Most of the compound fertilizers that are being used in farmlands contain elements which are not necessary for such lands and our project is to determine and produce the exact type of fertilizer that is needed for lands with specified soil conditions and crops," the ACC director-general said.

The ACC is headed by a nine-member board of directors including representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Department of Land Registry and the National Planning Council and four representatives of the Kingdom's farmers, and a representative of the Central Bank of Jordan, in addition to the director-general of the corporation.

The main sources of finance for the corporation, in addition to its capital, are internal and external loans. The Central Bank of Jordan maintains a credit line up to JD 3.7 million to the corporation and all loans raised by the corporation are guaranteed by the government of Jordan.

In the past the corporation has obtained loans from the European Investment Bank, an arm of the European Community, the Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development, U.N. agencies, the West German KfW, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

The corporation also works in close coordination with the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), the World Food Programme and other specialised U.N. agencies which help the corporation obtain international expertise in modern agricultural techniques and methods for use by Jordan's farmers.

The ACC employs about 250 people in its head office and branches in the East Bank and also pays 14 staff members of the four branches in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.



Poultry farms are among recipients of ACC loans



Non-irrigated land farmers benefit from ACC



Plastic-house farming receives particular assistance from ACC

## \$27m to keep UNRWA going through '85

A minimum of \$27 million in cash is still needed to keep the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) going through 1985 without cutting parts of its education, health or relief services and laying off staff. A decision to cut programmes would have serious consequences for refugees and host governments in the Middle East. But even if UNRWA survives intact, 1986 will be tougher.

ALTHOUGH UNRWA is hoping for special contributions from governments, the agency itself has taken drastic action to help alleviate its financial problems. First it cut headquarters staff and deferred pay and cost-of-living increases for 12,000 field staff — a saving of \$13 million. Then it cut expenditure on supplies, grants and the purchase of outside services — a further saving of \$6 million. Finally, construction, maintenance and the purchase of new equipment were cut — a saving of \$19 million.

### Budget reduced but gap remains

This means a total reduction of \$40 million from UNRWA's \$205 million cash budget. But it still leaves \$165 million to be funded by cash contributions. With these contributions currently estimated at only \$138 million, a gap of \$27 million remains.

The budget cuts are designed to avoid cutting services to refugees but they can't help but lower the quality of some of these services and in many cases only postpone expenditure on staff and UNRWA installations that cannot be withheld indefinitely. To do its job properly, the agency really needs to restore the \$40 million in cuts, for a total of \$67 million (including the unfunded \$27 million). Some of these cuts will have to be put back into the 1986 budget, at greater cost. In addition to trimming its budget, agency staff have been on the fund-raising trail again. Senior officials have visited Copenhagen, Oslo, Ottawa, Paris, Riyadh, Stockholm and Washington to discuss the financial crisis. Meetings have been held with international aid and foreign ministry officials in some cities and Deputy Commissioner-General Robert Dillon met with the Arab Gulf Fund for United Nations Development Programmes, Commissioner-General Olof Rydbeck addressed the Council of Europe's Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography and Comptroller Edward Gregory attended a special meeting of the General Assembly's Working Group on the Financing of UNRWA in New York. A number of other trips are planned for Europe, the Middle East and North America in the coming weeks.

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has written to heads of government appealing for additional financial aid and Commissioner-General Rydbeck has sent detailed financial information to all U.N. member states.

### Income gradually decreasing

Some countries have increased their contribution to UNRWA in the past few years, others have kept the same level but with a dramatically decreased dollar value and some have cut their donations to UNRWA. The accompanying charts show the decrease in income for regular programmes over the past five years. The charts do not include the \$60.2 million in contributions to the Lebanon emergency and reconstruction fund.

In previous years, UNRWA ended its financial year (calendar year) with small cash surpluses, enough to keep the agency running for the first weeks of the following year. But this cushion has been eaten up and UNRWA entered 1985 with dangerously low working capital. Therefore in 1985, there is no carry-over of cash and UNRWA has to limit itself to the actual income it expects this year — \$138 million in cash. Another \$26 million in supplies and money tied to specific projects such as classroom construction and the supplementary feeding programme has been pledged but this cannot be used to cover the cash portion of the budget.

And if it hadn't been for the one-time donation in 1984 of \$8.8 million from the breakup of the United Nations Emergency Ope-

rations Trust Fund, we'd be further in the hole. 1984 income would only have been \$169 million, not the \$177.9 million expected when the final accounts for 1984 are closed.

How did this crisis come about? Contributions have gone down and costs of running a fully operational organisation have gone up.

Maintenance of buildings and vehicles can't be put off forever; construction to meet a growing school population can't be put on hold; cost-of-living allowances can't be continually delayed; and 17,000 loyal staff members can't

stay at the same rate of pay year after year. And the International Civil Service Commission says that thousands of UNRWA's employees are underpaid by Middle East standards.

Unfortunately these costs have become higher by the year but they have to be paid if UNRWA is to fulfill its mandate from the General Assembly.

### UNRWA in figures

Total number of Palestine refugees registered with UNRWA: 2,067,216 (31/12/84).

Number of UNRWA health centres	98
Outpatient visits annually	4.5 million
Subsidised hospital beds available for UNRWA patients	1,388
Number of feeding centres	94
Student places in UNRWA vocational and teacher training centres:	
Jordan	1,510
West Bank	1,548
Gaza Strip	604
Lebanon*	608
Syrian Arab Republic	732
Total	5,002

\* The Sibir Training Centre did not open for the 1984-85 school year but instruction was given in Sidon and Beirut for some students.

UNRWA schools and schoolchildren in:	schools	children
Jordan	198	135,650
West Bank	98	39,939
Gaza Strip	145	83,977
Lebanon	84	34,568**
Syrian Arab Republic	115	51,713
Total	640	345,844

\* excluding two inoperative schools  
\*\* excluding 1,000 displaced children attending schools in Syria.

## Snatching improvement from catastrophe

By Jacques Danois

A SLUM can be called by many names: cauldron of violence, explosion of poverty, mirror of human indifference, social cancer, leprosy of power, cancer of development, or many other expressions which emphasise the shortcomings of societies with urbanisation problems. All these formulas can be used by those who can see the extent to which accumulated poverty fuels revolts, if not revolutions. A visit to the slum of Nima in the suburbs of Accra, the capital of Ghana, gives quite a different impression.

Of course, practically all the familiar elements are there: The filthy water stagnating in the gutters, the smell of excrement mixed with rotten scraps of food, the mud houses with shabby walls, the over-crowding, the dirt which is "natural" to this kind of place. Nothing is missing except the aggressiveness of the inhabitants.

Nor does the place exhibit the signs of fatalism, the normal enemy of initiative and positive action; on the contrary, it would seem that the slum population of Nima is ready to snatch social improvement from the jaws of catastrophe. Why is the situation so different in this collection of shabby old buildings and repository of ill-smelling garbage? Quite simply, because of the joint action of some people of goodwill. These words may seem outdated, but what they signify still exists, so why not use them even if they seem antiquated? Nima is not a very important place on the map of Africa or even of Ghana, but for those who live there it is the centre

of the world.

Most of the inhabitants are of foreign origin. Nigerians who came to Ghana at the time of the economic boom, almost three decades ago. Since then, they have been vegetating in the dust in the dry season and in the mud in the rainy season. Almost all of them are Muslims. God is their refuge and their comfort and prayer is their spiritual food, just as it is for Sister Jeanne, a Dutch nun who has been living in Ghana for some years already. She was the one who brought hope to this community, initially by tending to sick children and undernourished babies.

In doing so, she was struck by the large numbers of children in this poor district suffering from prickly heat and other skin diseases.

She began her efforts by begging for medicine, and used it to cure her small patients by door-to-door care.

With the assistance of a young civil engineer, Ato Brown, who is performing his civic service (there is no compulsory military service in Ghana but young girls and boys must, on completing their university studies, make themselves available to the country for two years to work on social programmes), a comprehensive project was launched. It involves giving Nima's inhabitants the responsibility for their health, hygiene and education problems. The organisers of the project say that the main thing is to identify the people who are to be helped and to find men and women to form grass-roots teams.

This has been done. The chiefs

of the tribal groups and the religious authorities are now convinced of the usefulness of the work contemplated. One of the local dignitaries is Baba Mohammed, who is also a member of the municipal council of the city of Accra. His authority is extremely useful, particularly when he raises his voice to people. "If, by tomorrow, you do not clean these streets, burn your rubbish and use the public toilets constructed by your neighbours for all of you, you will be forbidden to cook and sell peanuts and keep your stands here."

The friendly threat is effective, and the population does what is asked of it in a party-like atmosphere.

Mothers' schools are organised. Meetings are held at which volunteers give lectures on nutrition and care for young children. Communications materials — posters and picture boxes — are put together locally by the inhabitants of the slum. Premises are made available to act as a small, makeshift clinic, and prickly heat care is dispensed there on Fridays and Saturdays.

The United Nations Save the Children Fund (UNICEF) has taken an interest in this effort and has provided assistance. The question is a delicate one, since the basis of the programme is to promote self-help. For instance, the funds necessary for the operation must come from the project itself. Consequently, a token payment is

required for medicine and the use of community facilities. The money collected goes to the maintenance and construction of public toilets and to community cleaning activities.

The situation has to be avoided in which a flood of aid descends and spawns a welfare mentality. Many young people living in Nima are unemployed and want only to work. To preserve their morals, they are given food and clothing in exchange for their participation in the work.

Everything is based on permanent human contact. An internal communication service has to be set up, and for this lightweight equipment, cardboard, implements, graphics, etc., are needed.

The main thing is to avoid creating a local bureaucracy, which inevitably produces a "mediocrity".

There are as many things to do as to avoid doing, and the leaders of the Nima Project are aware of the fact.

Ghana can prove that a slum can be the start of a new life for its inhabitants instead of remaining a dumping ground for the marginals of society.

Nima is the example of what a country impoverished by various economic and political circumstances can do with very limited means.

— UNICEF press release



## Al Waha Stores hand keys to 1985 Alfa Romeo winner

AMMAN (J.T.) — Miss Dawlat Dawood Dajani Thursday received keys to her 1985 Alfa Romeo prize that she won through Al Waha Stores lottery.

Al Waha Stores Finance and Administration Director Said Heifawi handed the car keys to Miss Dajani at a ceremony attended by a large number of customers at Al Waha Stores.

Miss Dajani is the holder of March's winning ticket number 097287.

Al Waha Stores will hold another draw of tickets at the end of April on another Alfa Romeo model '85 car.

The photo shows Mr. Heifawi handing Miss Dajani the car keys.



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## Everton looks set for title

**LONDON (R)** — It may be a painful prospect, but Liverpool can begin preparations for the delivery of the English Soccer Championship trophy to neighbours Everton.

"The blues", who have grown in stature since they took over at the top of the first division on January 12, overcame Sunderland 4-1 Saturday with a performance which bore all the hallmarks of champions-elect.

They shrugged off the loss of an 80-second goal — Ian Wallace scoring with a cute back header — to outclass the League Cup finalists with contemptuous ease. Former Scotland striker Andy Gray scored twice before the interval and Trevor Steven and Graeme Sharp emphasised their superiority after the break.

Manchester United, the only serious threat to Everton's hopes of their first title triumph since 1970, also collected three points but the feeling persists they are now battling for the runners-up spot with third-placed Tottenham.

United beat bottom-of-the-table Stoke 5-0 at Old Trafford, new Welsh sensation Mark Hughes and Danish winger Jesper Olsen scoring two goals apiece, while Tottenham were held to a 1-1 draw at London rivals West Ham.

With 10 matches to play, Everton are now on 69 points, four ahead of United who have played two games more, and eight points clear of Tottenham, whom they beat away from home in midweek.

Not for the first time recently, it was Gray, a throwback to the traditional British centre-forwards of the 1950s, who emerged as Everton's hero with two stunning headers in the 34th and 38th minutes.

He put Everton back on level

terms with a typically courageous diving header then topped that effort when he bulletted home a Steven cross at the far post.

The Sunderland defence, which had looked impenetrable in the early stages, disintegrated in the face of Everton's relentless pressure and Steven and Sharp raised the tally to four in the 50th and 69th minutes.

United, who meet Liverpool in the semifinals of the F.A. Cup next Saturday, were never in danger after Hughes opened the scoring against Stoke in the fourth minute.

Olsen, who is fast developing into one of the big personalities in England, struck on either side of the interval. Hughes raised his tally for the season to 24 with his second, and Norman Whiteside completed the rout in the dying seconds.

Tottenham, who may forever look back in anguish on that home defeat by Everton, had not won at West Ham since 1974. But they looked to have ended that run when Argentine Ossie Ardiles, now restored to full fitness, shot them ahead two minutes from the interval.

But West Ham eased their relegation worries when Alan Dickens, the youngster who is filling Trevor Brooking's role in midfield, equalised in the 83rd minute.

Liverpool, a distant fourth on the 57-point mark, ended their Leicester jinx, whom they had not beaten since 1978, with a 1-0 away win courtesy of a Ronnie

Whelan goal nine minutes from the final whistle.

Although Liverpool now appear to have accepted their reign as champions is over, they are unlikely to end the season without collecting at least one piece of silverware.

Their awesome strength in depth was reflected by the fact they lost Scottish midfielder Steve Nicol and fullback Alan Kennedy shortly before the kickoff at Leicester.

While that would have been a hammer blow to most clubs, manager Joe Fagan was able to call on former England international Sammy Lee — missing from the first team for five months — and Irish World Cup player Jim Berglin.

Like Everton, Scottish Premier League champions Aberdeen may not have too long to wait before cracking open the champagne in celebration of their second successive title triumph.

Goals by Steve Cowan and Eric Black gave Aberdeen a 2-1 win at Glasgow Rangers, who scored through Swedish international Robert Prytz, to maintain their six-point advantage over Celtic, who have one game in hand.

Celtic won 2-0 at Hearts with goals from Scottish World Cup player Paul McCrory and University graduate Brian — known as "Brain" to his teammates — McClair.

Third-placed Dundee United, who could yet pip Celtic for second place, enhanced their goal difference by hammering Morton 5-0, a result which docked the Greenock club to the first division next season.

United shared out their goals among Alex Taylor (two), John Reilly, Eamonn Bannon and former Scottish international defender David Narey.

## Oxford wins 10th successive Boat Race

**LONDON (R)** — Oxford beat Cambridge by four and three-quarter lengths to win the annual University Boat Race for the 10th successive year Saturday... and were then welcomed ashore by a topless model.

Twenty-four-year-old Julie Goodinson set the Oxford celebrations in motion when she greeted the victorious crew at the finish after their comfortable 13-second triumph on the river Thames.

Her appearance upstaged tiny Cambridge cox Henrietta Shaw, billed as the event's first lady. She was close to tears as she climbed out of the Cambridge boat after the dramatic race in which both crews were warned five times for encroachment by referee Ronnie Howard.

Shaw steered Cambridge into a small early lead but Oxford fought back and edged clear around the

halfway mark. From there they powered away to a convincing win in 17 minutes 11 seconds.

Oxford coach Dan Topolski said: "To win 10 in a row gives me a fabulous feeling. This is now our best-ever run in the 156-year history of the boat race."

Oxford's win was particularly sweet for Bruce Philip, who became the first man to represent both universities in the race's history.

Philip, a member of the beaten Cambridge crew of 1982 and 1983, said: "This is marvellous but the race now seems just like a blur. It was never so quick. It goes so much faster when you're winning, but it lasts forever when you lose."

Topolski, who will now take all but two of his crew to Japan for a re-run of the boat race next week, expects to take charge of Oxford again next year.

## Wilander advances to Monte Carlo final

**MONTE CARLO (R)** — Mats Wilander, Sweden's clay court master, reached the final of the Monte Carlo Open tennis tournament for the third time in a row when he overcame American teenager Aaron Krickstein 6-2, 6-3 in the semifinals Saturday.

Wilander, winner here in 1983 and runner-up last year, played too consistently for 17-year-old Krickstein who said he was mentally very tired after his demanding quarter-final against Czechoslovak Tomas Smid late Friday.

The Swede found Krickstein a stubborn opponent for the first set as the American tried to force the game with powerful forehand and backhand drives.

## McEnroe, Connors into semifinals

**CHICAGO (R)** — Americans John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors, the top two seeds, both dropped sets before advancing to the semifinals of the \$315,000, Chicago Grand Prix tennis classic Friday night.

Third-seeded Andres Ganez of Ecuador, who now plays Connors, was also taken to three sets in his quarterfinal match.

McEnroe was severely tested by the aggressive play of fellow-American Paul Annacone, a Wimbledon quarterfinalist last year. Annacone, attacking the net at every opportunity, won the first set before losing control of his serve and going down 4-6, 6-4, 6-1.

## Lotus dominates Brazilian Grand Prix practice

**RIO DE JANEIRO (R)** — Lotus drivers Elio de Angelis and Ayrton Senna set the pace Friday at the first day of qualifying practice for Sunday's Brazilian Grand Prix, clocking up the fastest laps of one minute 28.081 and one minute 28.705 seconds respectively.

Italian de Angelis, who broke his own record set in last year's qualifying practice by 0.311 seconds, said he expects engine adjustments will give him a faster time in the final day of practice.

Austria's Niki Lauda, who starts the defence of his 1984 World Championship crown on Sunday, came only sixth with one minute 30.716 seconds, complaining that his Porsche-engined McLaren lacked power.

Lauda's team mate, Frenchman Alain Prost, runner up in last year's season, and who was tipped by former World Champion Jackie Stewart to take this year's title, set the fourth fastest time of the day, with one minute 30.253 seconds.

Nelson Piquet, the former World Champion Brazilian, who took pole position in nine 1984 Grands Prix, disappointed his home crowd by coming in ninth in his Brabham, with one minute 31.364 seconds.

Briton Derek Warwick spent most of the morning in the pits after his Renault skidded into a safety barrier, slightly damaging the front suspension.

In the afternoon, Warwick came 10th in official practice with one minute 31.533 seconds.

The Ferraris of Italy's Michele Alboreto and Frenchman Rene Arnoux, seen as one of the greatest threats to the McLaren dominance, came third and seventh respectively.

## S. Korea overwhelms Nepal

**SEOUL (R)** — South Korea overwhelmed Nepal 4-0 in the World Soccer Cup Asian qualifying match here Saturday.

The Koreans must win the home game against Malaysia on May 19 to finish top of Sub-Group 3A and go forward to a second round meeting against the winners of Sub-Group 3B made up of Thailand, India, Bangladesh and Indonesia.

## Egypt disappoints fans

**CAIRO (R)** — Egypt, looking for a big crop of goals in Friday's World Cup soccer qualifier against lowly Madagascar, sent a 60,000 Cairo crowd home disappointed with only a one-goal win.

The Egyptians had wanted a big goal advantage to take to the away leg of the second round tie later this month, but failed to make much of a dent in a Madagascar side intent solely on keeping the

scoresheet blank. Egypt dominated the midfield and mounted attack after attack. But the visitors never had less than seven men at the back, and the hosts proved unable to find a way through the brick-wall defence, despite constant pressure.

The lone goal came from a corner, an unmarked Emad Suliman slotting home the cross easily from a few yards out.

## Kuwait thrashes N. Yemen

**KUWAIT (R)** — A rejuvenated Kuwait team, playing under a new coach, trounced North Yemen 5-0 here Friday in a World Cup Asian Group Two, Sub-Group 2A soccer qualifier.

In an even-sided first half, the visiting team held its own until Abdul-Aziz Al Anbaree beat the

Al-Anbaree notched his second goal nine minutes after the restart and Salah Al-Haswan notched the third four minutes later. Faisal Al-Dakheel scored 10 minutes from time and Jamal Yacoub completed the rout with Kuwait's fifth goal five minutes from the final whistle.

### Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Jordan Valley Authority

Time Extension for Tender No. 2/85

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## Canada revamps depressed energy industry

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's New Progressive Conservative government has introduced sweeping new legislation to deregulate oil prices and boost offshore exploration, in a bid to revitalise an energy industry hard hit by recession.

In the last six weeks, Energy Minister Pat Carney has announced a package of reforms aimed at freeing Canada's oil industry from government regulation under the much-maligned national energy programme (NEP).

"What we are trying to do in this accord is treat the oil and gas industry as the proverbial engine of growth and not a milk cow for government revenues," she said.

NEP was introduced in 1980 by Liberal prime minister Mr. Pierre Trudeau in an effort to regain Canadian control over a vital industry that was dominated by foreign companies.

But the oil industry, hurt by falling prices and a world oil glut, condemned NEP as a disaster that

destroyed investor confidence and found an ally in Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's government which swept to power last September.

Mr. Mulroney, faced with a \$26 billion deficit and a hefty loss in oil revenues, has fought for less government intervention in the economy.

His government has signed two major energy agreements in the last six weeks, decided to deregulate oil prices from June 1 and set up a new natural gas pricing regime from Nov. 1.

Last month, Ms. Carney negotiated the "Atlantic accord", allowing Newfoundland a slice of the revenue cake once oil production starts there, probably in 1990.

Last month, Ms. Carney announced the completion of the "Western accord" with British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan — the three provinces responsible for Canada's daily exports of 445,000 barrels — which will scrap export charges.

Energy department officials said the package would give the industry an extra \$1 billion in revenue this year.

Ms. Carney said that if the industry reinvested its windfall, up to 300,000 jobs could be created, but she warned that Ottawa would be watching to make sure the industry used the extra cash to create jobs and find more oil and gas.

No major impact is expected on prices at the pump because Canadian prices are nearly at world levels already.

Geologists say there may be up to nine billion barrels of oil under the Beaufort Sea in the Arctic and up to 185 billion barrels in the glutinous oil sands of Alberta — but production costs are still too high to be commercially viable.

The oil industry was predictable euphoric about the agreement, with the shares of major oil companies rising on the Toronto stock exchange even before the details were announced.

Canadian Petroleum Association Chairman Bernard Issatier said the two levels of governments in Canada "have given to my industry the tools for us to get back to work at the level we are capable of."

He forecast that the deal "will reawaken investor confidence — both Canadian investors and foreign investors."

Ms. Carney said exports to the United States, presently running at 350,000 barrels a day, may show a small increase.

However, she said that the demand for Canadian oil in the United States was not likely to rise significantly because of the present world surplus.

She said the agreement ended years of acrimony and confrontation and stressed one government message that was meant to be heard loud and clear, telling parliament: "This will mean large-scale reinvestment in Canada."

## Japan's telecom business goes private

TOKYO (R) — Japan's telecommunications industry moved out of government control and into the private sector last week amid growing friction with the United States over who should share some of the rich profits in store.

Industry analysts agree the introduction of competition into telecommunications, until now dominated by a state-run monopoly, will hasten technological advances and diversify services.

But whether American firms, which saw the Japanese share of the U.S. market increase four-fold after the breakup of the American Telephone and Telegraph Corporation (ATT), can recoup their losses in Japan's liberalised market remains in doubt.

In three months of intense negotiations, U.S. trade officials appear to have obtained few of their demands for changes in a web of regulations which they fear will discriminate against foreign firms.

Belief in Washington that Tokyo is stonewalling on this and other market opening measures has fuelled American frustration. The U.S. Senate last month passed a resolution urging retaliation unless Japan opened its markets within 90 days.

Earlier, special presidential assistant Mr. Gaston Sigur was in Tokyo to deliver a personal plea from President Reagan to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone for a

quick solution to the impasse.

The laws which took effect on April 1 convert a state-run government monopoly into a private firm, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT), and allow other firms to offer telephone and other communications services.

U.S. firms hope to reap profits in three main areas — by selling terminal equipment, offering communications services and selling satellites to new communications firms.

But the new regulations by no means spell the end of bureaucratic regulations.

U.S. government and industry officials say they fear the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MPT) will have wide scope to block sales of foreign products.

Under the new laws, the industry is divided into two areas — those owning their own circuits and those providing services over leased lines.

Foreign ownership of firms in the first category is limited to one-third, and foreigners may not buy shares in the new NTT.

The laws permit U.S. firms equally in the second area, but Americans are worried a tangle of implementing regulations will allow bureaucrats to discriminate against them.

"Based on past experience, whenever we have bought into this kind of thing, it has hurt," Mr. George Lindamood, general manager of the computer firm Burroughs Corporation, told Reuters.

U.S. firms sold some \$110 million worth of telecommunications products and services to Japan in 1984, compared with \$1.5 billion worth of Japanese exports.

Some firms say invisible barriers bar them from a market now estimated at \$6 billion and expected to reach \$8 billion in 1987.

"The Japanese market seems to be very open, but just in front of you is a transparent glass, a big wall," said Mr. Hiroaki Kobayashi, managing director of Paradise Japan Corporation, a U.S. firm which sells modems here.

Japanese industry and government officials counter-argue that the main cause of the U.S. trade deficit is the high value of the dollar and insufficient marketing effort by American firms.

Officials from NTT and Daini-Denden Company, one of NTT's competitors, insist they will buy foreign products if their quality is good and the price is right.

Some Americans also suggest the problem rests as much with U.S. companies as in the nature of the Japanese market.

Mr. John Cusick, managing director of ATT International (Japan) Company, told a recent seminar that American firms are often unwilling to make the long-term investment needed to modify their products for hook-up with the Japanese network.

ATT and International Business Machines (IBM) Corporation plan to offer computer linkage network services here. American firms also hope to profit from sales of U.S.-made satellites, until recently prohibited by a government policy which favoured increasing domestic capability.

Hughes Communications Incorporated, Ford Aerospace Satellite Service Corporation and RCA Corporation are all linking with Japanese partners with plans to lease satellite transponders to domestic users.

Industry analysts say that given the huge amount of investment needed, the market can probably support only one such business.

To a move aimed to head off retaliatory action by the U.S. Congress, Mr. Nakasone pledged to appeal personally to the Japanese people for cooperation when he announces a new market-opening package on Tuesday.

## Paris may benefit most of EC enlargement

BRUSSELS (R) — When Spain and Portugal join the European Community (EC) next year, the biggest beneficiary could be France.

Enlargement next Jan. 1 will put it at the heart of the new 12-nation group, both politically and economically, going some way towards realising Napoleon's vision of France as the hub of a continent united from Spain to Sweden and the Atlantic to the Urals.

Western Europe from Spain to Denmark and the Atlantic to the Berlin Wall, with France the meeting point of the old and the new.

Paris, picking over each tonne of cod and hestolitre of wine, often seemed to be fighting a rear-guard action in the six year talks on Spanish entry terms.

It was still haggling over details last month when frustrated Community officials asked External Relations Minister Roland Dumas

of blocking agreement for the sake of five fishing boats.

In the end wider interests came out on top. "I am very satisfied," President Francois Mitterrand told reporters after a Community summit meeting overcame the last hurdles.

"The French government is fervently in favour of enlargement," Mr. Mitterrand said.

Spanish entry negotiations focused attention on the short-term defence of French farmers and fishermen. But long-term benefits to France should outweigh short-term problems, diplomats and economists here say.

Politically, as Italy has often argued, the accession of Spain and Portugal may shift the Community's centre of gravity south towards the Mediterranean.

But it may also shift the centre of gravity westwards, making

Paris the natural fulcrum in a new distribution of political weight.

French diplomats say. Economically, France has much to gain in the next three years from the 50 per cent phase-out of Spanish tariffs.

Already French state electronics group Machines Bull has signed a deal with Spain's industry ministry to help develop and manufacture automated office equipment for the Spanish market.

Many other high-technology firms in central and southern towns are poised on the doorstep of the Iberian markets.

In a more traditional industry, French oilseed group Lesieur took a commanding position in the Spanish cooking oil market last year although Madrid stepped in to stop it buying the country's leading firm.

## U.S. unions welcome appointment of Brock

WASHINGTON (R) — The choice of special trade envoy Mr. Bill Brock to head the troubled U.S. Labour Department has brought President Reagan a rare reward — the applause of his bitter foe in the trade union leadership.

That reaction alone is a significant break in the icy hostility that has marked White House relations with labour in the past four years, union officials say, and could open an era in which the two sides are at least communicating.

"Brock is a man we can talk to," said Mr. Dale Larson of the AFL-CIO, the main union federation. "We know where he stands."

On the White House side, even a partial truce with heavily Democratic union chiefs would be a political plus for Mr. Reagan's Republicans, who hope to keep control of the Senate in elections next year and need blue-collar support to do so.

The president announced last month that he was nominating Mr. Brock, 54, a suave and influential Washington insider, to succeed

former labour secretary Mr. Raymond Donovan, who resigned to stand trial.

Political olive branches sprouted all over Washington.

Mr. Brock, a former Tennessee Senator, Republican Party chairman and a cabinet member as chief U.S. foreign trade negotiator since 1981, said he recognised that White House relations with organised labour were in awful shape and must be improved.

"We have a lot of communicating to do," he said, and began it by phoning his "old friend" Mr. Lane Kirkland, the crusty, anti-Reagan president of the AFL-CIO.

Mr. Kirkland responded in kind, saying of Mr. Brock: "while we have not always agreed, he has earned our respect."

Such amicable gestures would have been unthinkable under Mr. Donovan, whom labour treated with contempt as an alleged anti-union conservative bent on scrapping rules protecting worker health, safety, bargaining rights and other issues.

## Multinationals in Italy polish their image

ROME — Foreign companies operating in Italy ought to be feeling pleased with themselves. The economy is expanding while last year fewer working hours were lost from strikes than in any year since 1952.

The number of new companies setting up plants in Italy last year totalled 20.

Why then should about 60 managers, from companies as diverse as Ciba-Geigy and Barclays Bank, have gathered in Rome recently to discuss the need for a more positive image for multinationals in Italy?

Over the past few months, alongside the resurgence of foreign investment in Italy, there have been signs that not everyone in political circles is happy. The word "colonisation" has crept into the Press. The Ministry of Industry is considering tightening up the entry of foreign companies.

Recently the Ministry of Scientific Research has withheld funds from a number of companies which are wholly or partially foreign-owned.

From the late 1970s to the early 1980s foreign investment in Italy was static. Potential investors were put off by the past failures of others (such as the unions between Dunlop and Pirelli), by fear that the Communist Party might come to power, by left-wing terrorism and by poor labour relations.

The tide began to turn in 1982. The fact that terrorism virtually disappeared made foreign businesses realise other things about Italy: That private business, led by Olivetti and Fiat, was restructuring itself, almost without government help, that the communist threat was receding and that the unions, defeated in the 1980 Fiat strike, had a bark far worse than their bite.

Last year was the annus mirabilis for foreign investment in Italy.

AT & T consummated the deal struck at the end of 1983 whereby it took 25 per cent of Olivetti. Allianz, the West German insurance company, bought 52 per cent of RAS, the insurance company. Plessey bought 35 per cent of Eletronica, the maker of electronic warfare equipment. It is estimated that about £1.5 billion (\$708 million) was invested in Italy in new acquisitions.

But whereas the Olivetti deal with AT & T was lauded as a compliment to Italy, the purchase by the Swedish company Electrolux of Zanussi, the domestic appliance maker, was considered profoundly disturbing.

Even though the takeover by the Swedish concern was probably the best solution for the near-bankrupt Zanussi, both businessmen and politicians regretted that no Italian solution had been found. The foreign sale of a company which had been to the forefront of Italy's economic miracle of the 1960s caused shock.

So did the realisation that in the past two years majority control of Italy's pharmaceutical industry has passed into foreign hands.

Until 1978 foreign companies were discouraged from entering the big Italian drug market by the fact that products could not be patented in Italy. This allowed a large number of small companies to survive mainly by imitating the products of the big companies. The change in the patenting laws, plus price controls, cuts in health spending and the need for more R and D spending, widened the field and put many smaller companies

out of business.

In the past two years seven Italian pharmaceutical companies have passed into foreign control following acquisitions by Beecham and Glaxo of the U.K. Roussel-Uclaf of France and Fermenta of Sweden. Some 60 per cent of the market is said to be in the hands of foreign-affiliated companies or subsidiaries and a respected Italian economic commentator said recently that "the sum of acquisitions means an almost complete colonisation of the Italian market by foreign groups".

Politicians of both the left and centre have begun raising the alarm. Though the EC does not allow national companies to have priority in buying businesses, most countries do have procedures for blocking takeovers which they judge undesirable.

Italy has no such procedures, and indeed the government does not normally have to be informed of takeovers or possible takeovers by foreign companies.

Sig Renato Altissimo, the Industry Minister, who is a businessman himself and anxious to dismantle controls wherever possible, is toying with the idea of introducing a mandatory reporting system for foreign takeovers. His advisers are contemplating a system by which the Ministry would have the right to object if a foreign company wanted to acquire more than 30 to 40 per cent of an Italian company.

Perhaps more worrying for the multinationals was the recent decision by Sig Luigi Granelli, the Christian Democrat Minister of Scientific Research, to refuse applications for research grants from five companies, including the Ita-

lian offshoots by Bayer, GTE and Honeywell, and also Electronics, Plessey's new affiliate.

Though the Minister justified his decision on the grounds that government funds are in short supply, he made it clear in private that the applications failed because they were foreign.

The managers of foreign-controlled companies who gathered in Rome recently under the auspices of Business International, the U.S. consultancy, did not seem unduly alarmed by these developments. The attitude of many of them seemed to be that if the government made extra conditions they would only be in addition to the many complications of operating in Italy — complications which multinationals claim to be well used to coping with.

Many multinationals felt, however, that they ought to head off a possible backlash against foreign companies by stressing what they were doing for Italy by way of employment, know-how and benefits to Italy's balance of payments.

Sig Sergio Giuliani, managing director of Ciba-Geigy in Italy, said: "By maintaining a low profile multinationals have often ended up having a negative profile. All companies have negative and positive aspects. What we multinationals ought to have is the right profile."

If nothing else, the meeting was a reminder that "multinational" is still looked upon as a dirty word in Italy — even if, as one speaker pointed out, it can equally be applied to native Italian companies like Olivetti — Financial Times news feature.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUN. APRIL 7, 1985

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** The morning brings a tendency to be quarrelsome, so don't fall into this trap. The afternoon finds some unexpected benefit arising to lift tension, while later your attempts are thwarted.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Don't be forceful in the morning, trying to gain some personal aim or you lose out where it counts the most.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** You have to use tact in the morning to gain some cherished aim, and later you find that a co-worker can be assistance.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** You could be frustrated by some private anxiety in the morning, but later a partner is most helpful.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** Don't try to force a friend to join you in fun in the morning, and keep rooted to important work.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** Take care of your reputation in the morning, and doing nothing that could discredit you in public. Try to please kin.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Not a good day for going off on any tangents but fine for handling work at hand. Drive with care.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Your hunches are not good in the morning, so forget them and trust your mature judgment.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Be sure you avoid that person who is too demanding in the morning, and later you get important financial assistance you need.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** Some situation connected with your work can be annoying in the morning, but after lunch all goes very well.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Don't get into an entertainment which cannot afford in the morning, then later you get assistance from a higher-up.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** A family tie could be hopping mad in the morning, but keep poised, and after lunch a good pal is helpful.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Avoid sarcasm and careless driving in the morning, and later be with one of prominence who can give you backing you need.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY...** he or she will be blessed with many talents but will have the habit of procrastination, so early teach to arrive at a decision and then carry through with the work required. A magnetic person whom others will spoil early, but teach that only that which is earned can ever be truly appreciated.

## THE Daily Crossword

by Louis Santrey

ACROSS

- 1 Agreement
- 2 Accepted
- 3 Noted 1920 delandant
- 4 Celebes beast
- 5 La Scala
- 6 Western author
- 7 Louis L.
- 8 Pithily
- 9 Celebrated
- 10 Well-versed
- 11 "Star Wars" role
- 12 Oath-taker's words
- 13 Track position
- 14 Ice pinnacle
- 15 Year-Sp.
- 16 Bad mark
- 17 Leading
- 18 From soup to nuts
- 19 To be in
- 20 Bordeaux
- 21 Brighton break
- 22 Home-run king
- 23 Labor
- 24 Feeling
- 25 Torment
- 26 Inclines a dog
- 27 Communicator's afterthought
- 28 Praying figure in art
- 29 Potry
- 30 Barrel
- 31 Mormon State
- 32 Expunge
- 33 Close by to poets
- 34 Proficient
- 35 Indian
- 36 Grassy for one
- 37 Where Perry won
- 38 Choristers
- 39 70 Conifers
- 40 Beatty film

DOWN

- 1 Tempo
- 2 Strong as
- 3 Free pass for short

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS

- 1 CANDLE
- 2 FEELING
- 3 SCRAP OF FOOD
- 4 SLICK-TALKING
- 5 RING DECISIONS
- 6 TREE
- 7 CANDIDATE TREE
- 8 40 A ORIGINAL
- 9 BARREL
- 10 GAVE A HINT
- 11 CHURCH CLOAKING
- 12 STAND UP TO
- 13 GAMBLER'S GAME
- 14 SECTORS
- 15 MAY LOOK ON A KING
- 16 TABOOS
- 17 ALL-POWERFUL
- 18 FOURS
- 19 SCOUT UNIT
- 20 HEMLOCK
- 21 LAZULI
- 22 DARNABE LEADER
- 23 CONVINCE

DOWN

- 1 PIECE OF CHANGE
- 2 TAKES ON
- 3 ZODIAC SIGN
- 4 NOT TASTEFUL
- 5 FATHER-LA
- 6 SUNKEN FENCE
- 7 BLUE DYE
- 8 GIVE AN EDGE
- 9 SAHARAN
- 10 ARTHURIAN LADY
- 11 HOLY WOMAN
- 12 COMMONFOOT
- 13 BARR PILE

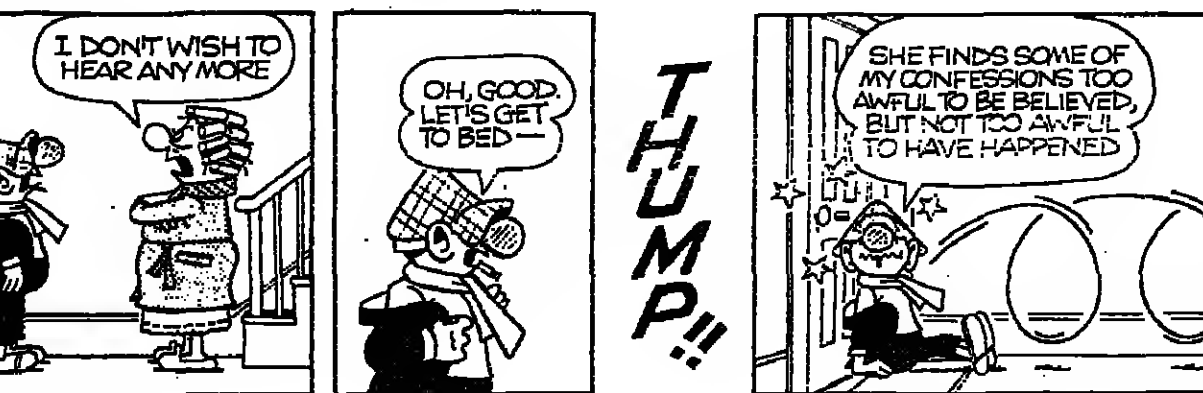
## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



**THE BETTER HALF** By Harris

Copyright 1985 The Register and Tribune Syndicate, Inc. HARRIS 1-31

**JUMBLE** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

GOUCH

ORFUR

HUMILS

YATAPH

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: LIBEL ALIVE SAVORY CLOUDY

Answer: How that comical sergeant stalled the day for his troops—WITH "OROLL" CALL



# Reagan brushes aside Nicaragua's comments on U.S. peace plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan brushed aside Nicaragua's denunciation of his peace plan for that country and asserted that the people of that Central American nation will support his new strategy to force a change in the Sandinista government.

Asked to comment on a report that the Nicaraguan government has denounced his proposal as warlike, Mr. Reagan said, "they were saying that before they ever heard what the plan was. I can understand that. They don't want to give up the cushy (soft) spot they have now."

"But we believe the people of Nicaragua will be highly supportive because they still want the goals they fought for in their revolution," Mr. Reagan told reporters shortly before leaving for his California ranch on a 10-day vacation.

Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto, interviewed Friday on the ABC Television Network's Good Morning America programme, charged that Mr. Reagan "has said nothing new and he certainly has presented no peace proposal."

"If we do not cry uncle (con-

cede) by June 1, he will continue the war against our people, he will continue to finance the thugs to murder and kill our people and destroy our countryside," Mr. D'Escoto said.

In Moscow, the Soviet government newspaper Izvestia condemned Mr. Reagan's proposal for a cease-fire and negotiations in Nicaragua as "a dangerous new step toward unleashing an undisguised armed conflict in Central America."

The official News Agency Tass charged that Mr. Reagan had flaunted generally recognised international norms and interfered in Nicaraguan internal affairs by serving what it termed an ultimatum to the Sandinista government.

Meanwhile, congressional opponents of Mr. Reagan's Central American policies said they saw little new in his Nicaraguan peace plan and doubt it will be enough to

persuade Congress to approve \$14 million in aid to the "Contra" guerrillas seeking to overthrow the government.

At a news conference Thursday, Mr. Reagan called for a cease-fire in the civil war and renewed negotiations between the government and the Contras, as well as a mediator's role by the Roman Catholic Church to bring the two sides together.

Mr. Reagan said that if Congress approved the \$14 million in assistance to the paramilitary forces he supports in Nicaragua, the money would temporarily be used only for food, clothing and medicine and "other support for survival."

But Mr. Reagan said that if the Sandinista government did not agree to a settlement within 60 days of resuming talks with the Contras, the United States would resume shipments of weapons, probably around June 1.

"The president of the U.S. is very worried because... he has not been able to persuade the American people and the Congress as to why they should continue to finance the opposition," Mr. D'Escoto said.



CITIZENS CONGRATULATE RIFA: Citizens visit and congratulate Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majalli (right) Saturday on their appointments (Petra photo)

## Chun meets Korean opposition leader

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — President Chun Doo-hwan and the leader of a militant new opposition party met for the first time Saturday in an informal encounter, and Mr. Chun said the government is interested in dialogue.

The occasion was the dedication of a new press centre building in downtown Seoul. As Mr. Chun walked into a reception room, those waiting to greet him included Lee Min-woo, president of the New Korea Democratic Party, a political grouping supported by dissident leaders Kim Dae-jung and Kim Young-sam that has

emerged as the No. 1 opposition to Mr. Chun's ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP).

Mr. Chun, 54, shook hands with the 69-year-old, veteran opposition figure, and extended his congratulations to Mr. Lee on his party presidency. Then Mr. Chun went to a head table where he offered his best wishes on the opening of the new high-rise press building, which houses the newspaper, Seoul Shinmun, domestic and foreign press clubs and related organisations.

Flanked by Mr. Lee Min-woo on the left and Roh Tae-woo, chairman of the ruling party, on the

right, Mr. Chun said he hoped the new media facility would help contribute to greater cooperation and understanding.

After the toast concluding his remarks, Mr. Chun turned to Mr. Lee and opened an unexpected exchange.

"The government is interested in dialogue," he said, "and we are not going to try to settle anything by force or strength."

Mr. Lee said in response, "since you have said what we want to say, there is little to add on my part..." He went on to add, however, that dialogue is an important part of building democracy.

## 'Shot U.S. major was photographing tank'

BONN (R) — The West German news magazine Der Spiegel says a U.S. army officer shot dead by a Soviet guard in East Germany last month was trying to photograph the Soviet Union's most advanced tank.

The magazine said in its latest issue that according to "internal American data" the dead officer, Major Arthur Nicholson, was trying to photograph a new Soviet

T-80 tank through a shed window.

U.S. army headquarters in Heidelberg, West Germany, refused to comment on the report and referred enquiries to the State Department in Washington.

Maj. Nicholson, a member of the U.S. military liaison team in East Germany, was shot while taking photographs of Soviet military equipment at Ludwigsburg, north

west of East Berlin.

Der Spiegel said his mission was part of efforts by the liaison team to gather information about new Soviet arms in east Germany of which Washington had only satellite photographs.

Soviet officials said Maj. Nicholson was spying and the United States denied he was doing anything wrong.

## China, Italy agree on big arms deal, Spadolini says

PEKING (R) — Italy will sell China a broad range of arms and train Chinese troops and scientific personnel under a major defence agreement reached in Peking, Italian Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini said.

Under the framework agreement, to be formally initiated, China said it would buy Italian equipment such as radar systems, transport and fighter planes, helicopters, mines, torpedoes, electronics and hydrofoils. Mr. Spadolini told Italian reporters Friday night.

Chinese troops would be trained in Italy in parachuting and mountain fighting techniques. Chinese flight controllers, meteorologists and aeronautics specialists would also work there in an exchange of military personnel.

Mr. Spadolini said he reached the accord during three and half hours of talks with his Chinese counterpart Zhang Aiping Friday and it would be initiated before he left Sunday.

"This is a major agreement," Mr. Spadolini said in a banquet speech. He gave no estimates for the possible money value of the accord or the scale of planned

Chinese purchases.

Foreign military attaches said the pact was the first of its kind between China and a West European state.

Mr. Spadolini said the Chinese had required that the arms should be supplied rapidly, the technology should be advanced, and the prices should be low.

Several of the items covered in the pact are now embargoed for sale to China under the Cocon agreement, which restricts Western high-technology arms sales to Communist countries, Mr. Spadolini said.

But he told the reporters that Italy would press at Cocom's scheduled June meeting in Rome for the items China wanted to be exempted from the ban. Cocom — the Coordinating Committee on Strategic Exports — groups 14 NATO countries and Japan.

China is discussing a major military deal with the United States involving the possible purchase of missiles, radar equipment and naval turbines.

It has also approached several West European countries, including Britain, France and Italy, for equipment.

## 11 killed, 39 injured in Indian bus accident

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 11 people were killed and 39 injured when a bus fell into a ravine in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh Saturday, the Press Trust of India reported.

The news agency said the accident occurred near the town of Bherughat. The victims were travelling from Bombay to the western desert state of Rajasthan.

## Improving Neves dubbed 'man of iron'

SAO PAULO (R) — Brazil's President-Elect Tancredino Neves, fighting for his life after surgery, has started to recover so well that his doctors have dubbed him "man of iron."

After newspaper reports Friday that only a miracle could save his life following his fifth operation in three weeks, Dr. Neves, 75, appeared to be surmounting his latest crisis.

Medical bulletins issued by presidential spokesman Antonio Brito grew increasingly positive. Dr. Neves' condition shifted from critical to delicate, with doctors still urging caution though barely able to conceal their relief.

The Governor of Sao Paulo, Franco Montoro, said the mood of the doctors had switched from despair to surprise in a day.

More than a day after the operation to drain abdominal abscesses, doctors said Dr. Neves' lung infection was lessening, surgical wounds were healing and there were no fresh centres of infection.

"All Brazilians want Dr. Tancredino to recover and return to his work," Mr. Montoro said.

Dr. Neves wrote notes to his wife Risoletta. Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal said the president-elect had asked doctors for a radio so he could follow the news.

Thousands of Brazilians had gathered outside the hospital after news of Dr. Neves' latest crisis and police tightened a cordon around the building.

The leader of Dr. Neves' Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB), Ulysses Guimarães, said the good news had reinvigorated the country.

Dr. Neves' inauguration on March 15 as Brazil's first civilian president in 21 years was thwarted by emergency surgery to remove an inflamed section of intestine.

Later, surgeons cleared an intestinal blockage, stemmed internal bleeding, and operated on a hernia.

## U.S. sub makes 6,100 metre ocean dive

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. Navy said Friday a tiny three-man submarine named the Sea Cliff had successfully completed a conversion for "deep submergence" work and made an ocean dive of 6,100 metres off the coast of Central America.

Although officials would not formally confirm it, the conversion project apparently turned the Sea Cliff into the navy's deepest diving submarine.

The Sea Cliff is one of three so-called "Turtle-class" deep-diving submarines constructed in the late 1960's primarily for ocean research work. Both the Sea Cliff and its sister, the Turtle, are assigned to the navy's submarine development group one in San Diego, California, while the third — the Alvi — is operated for the navy by the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution on the east coast.

As originally designed, the Sea Cliff and Turtle had a standard

operating depth of 1,900 metres. By comparison, the navy's most modern ballistic missile and attack submarines can operate only at about 300 metres and 450 metres respectively.

The 9.4 metre Sea Cliff, however, has now been fitted with a special titanium hull and silver-zinc batteries, the navy said Friday, making it "the only vessel in its class that can now operate independently at 20,000 feet for more than 16 hours."

"Sea Cliff's new operating depth provides access to over 98 per cent of the world's ocean floor," the navy added.

The navy did not say Friday exactly when the Sea Cliff conducted its first ocean dive to 20,000 feet, but said the dive had occurred recently in the middle America trench off the Pacific coast of Central America.

While the navy routinely refuses to discuss the operating cha-

acteristics of its ships, the authoritative Jane's Directory says the navy has two deep submergence rescue vehicles for use in case a submarine sinks, each of which can dive to a depth of 1,500 metres.

The directory also says the navy has one "nuclear-powered ocean engineering and research vehicle" operating depth unknown, and one "Triton-class" diving vehicle that was designed to operate as deeply as 20,000 feet but normally ventures only about 3,500 metres down. A navy source who asked not to be identified said the nuclear-powered research vehicle was not designed to operate as deeply as the Sea Cliff.

Friday's announcement said the Sea Cliff will be used for inspection, research and "recovery tasks in the deep ocean." The navy said that latter statement meant the sub could retrieve relatively small objects on the ocean floor.

## Youth dies after police clash with S. African protesters

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A black youth was found dead Saturday after clashes overnight between police and black protesters in South Africa's troubled eastern Cape in which two people were injured, police said.

A spokesman in Pretoria said police fired rubber bullets, teargas and shotguns when they were stoned by 50 black people at a township near Uitenhage. They arrested four men, two of them injured.

Early Saturday the body of a 19-year-old youth was found in the township.

Police said they arrested a 14-year-old boy at another township in the area after three houses were gutted by petrol bombs. They said the incident was still being investigated.

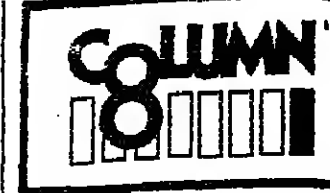
Two men were arrested in the same area, one after an arson attack on a house, another after police were stoned by what they described as troublemakers.

Spokesmen at Pretoria Police Headquarters are now the only officers authorised to give information about the unrest which erupts daily in black townships throughout South Africa.

The measure was announced Thursday, when the government also said the army would be called in wherever necessary to help police quell unrest.

Adriaan Vlok, deputy police and defence minister, Friday began a two-day tour of townships in the eastern Cape, where the worst of the riots have been concentrated this year.

An inquiry is under way in Uitenhage into the police shooting of at least 19 black people in the town's Langa township last month. A judge is hearing conflicting accounts of what happened when a group of 4,000 marchers confronted a patrol of about 20 police.



## Liz Taylor has back trouble

LOS ANGELES (R) — Film actress Elizabeth Taylor is being treated in a Los Angeles hospital for back trouble, hospital officials have said. They said Taylor, 52, was making good progress after entering St. John's Hospital on Wednesday. "If everything goes according to plan, she should be able to leave the hospital very soon," an official said.

## Man breaks leg in record high dive

HONG KONG (R) — A 25-year-old American claimed a new world high diving record of 53.1 metres Saturday but broke his leg in the attempt. Randy Dickson, performing before a crowd of over a thousand at an open air amusements centre, plunged from the high dive ladder into the 5.8 metre deep pool and emerged with a smile. He stood at the poolside for a moment but then had to sit down as he felt pain in his left leg. He was taken to hospital where a spokesman said he was in satisfactory condition. An official at the centre, Peter Hulm, said Dickson was now sole holder of the world high diving record. The previous record of 52.1 metres was held by Dickson and four others, he said. Luey Wardle, 24, a fellow-American, dived in from 36.7 metres to shatter the previous woman's record by 3.4 metres. "I'm glad it's over. I'm ecstatic," she told reporters afterwards.

## 76-year old man buried alive

PEKING (AP) — Three sons buried alive their ailing 76-year-old father after a self-proclaimed sorcerer convinced them that the man's feverish ravings meant he was possessed by evil spirits, a Chinese newspaper reported Friday. The Peasant Daily (Nongmin Ribao) said an autopsy showed Li Xianchen, who had pneumonia, lived for three days after the burial on Jan. 16 near the city of Guizhou in inland Mongolia. The sorcerer, Sun Chuanfeng, charged the sons a 107-yuan (\$37) fee for his advice. Police have arrested the sons and Sun Chuanfeng, who will be "severely dealt with according to law," the paper said.

## Frank Sinatra sues record company

LOS ANGELES (R) — Singer Frank Sinatra sued his record company claiming it authorised distribution of low quality recordings of his work and used his name to promote them without his consent. The suit, filed in Los Angeles superior court, alleged Capitol Records released his recordings to other companies, which Sinatra called "hargain harsment licences." No monetary claim was specified in the suit. But the 69-year-old singer, whose hits have included "Strangers in the Night" and "It Was a Very Good Year," complained he was not informed of the release of a 25,000-copy limited edition of his recordings at a cost of \$350 a copy. The lawsuit seeks to end an agreement Sinatra made with Capitol in 1955, granting it exclusive rights to master recordings. The suit also seeks a court order barring the manufacture or sale of the recordings under any label other than Capitol and the use of Sinatra's name without his consent.

## Paper suggests rat meat recipes

PEKING (R) — The only way to fight China's growing rat pest problem is to open rat meat restaurants and promote the rodents as a gourmet dish, according to the Economic Information newspaper. An estimated three to four billion rats eat 15 million tonnes of grain a year in China and annual pest-control drives have failed to stop the damage, it said in an article quoted by China Daily Saturday. The article said the only answer was for people to realise that rats were an important resource which should be hunted for meat and skins. "Unfortunately, the delicious and highly nourishing rat meat has thus far escaped the notice of most gourmets," the article's author, Wu Yonggui, said. Wu said peasants in the south and west of China had long seen rats as a delicacy, but most Chinese would take time to accept them as a regular meal.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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### ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠K1063 ♣KJ8 ♠752  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
1 ♠ Pass ?  
What action do you take?  
A.—You have a minimum response and you have reached a playable spot. Opener's rebid of a new suit at the one level is not forcing so there is no need for you to keep the bidding open. Don't take a preference to two clubs — you are raising the level for no good reason. Partner might have a three-card suit and even if he has five clubs, eight tricks might be beyond your combined assets.  
Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠Q1063 ♠K85 ♠AQ83 ♠7  
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?  
A.—In support of spades your hand is worth 18 points, so you want to get across to partner the information that you are in the slam zone. Jump shift to three diamonds. If you most jump shift to a four-card suit, it is more prudent to select a minor over a major.  
Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ872 ♠KQ6 ♠KJ ♠A72  
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?  
A.—In terms of high cards this is a much better hand than the one above, but it is oowhere near as good in playing strength. The reason? You have not yet established a trump fit. Therefore, we suggest caution. Instead of jump shifting, we would make a simple one spade response and show our strength in the subsequent bidding.